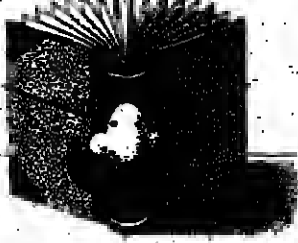


THE TIMES Tomorrow

Changing China
David Bonavia reports on the struggle for reform in China.

Shelf-life
Russell Davies on how to give your bookshelf an acceptable face.



Peace in our time
A Special Report on the Nato Alliance, 35 years on.

When in Rome
Brian Glanville on Rome, the Italian champions Liverpool must beat to win Wednesday's European Cup Final in Rome.

Scargill pushed over at picket

Mr Arthur Scargill was involved in a picket line skirmish at a British Steel Corporation coke plant. He was pushed to the ground as demonstrators and police clashed outside the works at Orgreave, South Yorkshire. Mr Scargill, who was not hurt, blamed the police for provoking the incident. *Back page*

Violence mars Egyptian poll

More violence and opposition allegations of intimidation and vote-rigging marred the general election in Egypt. A woman opposition candidate was reported to have been shot dead. *Page 4*

Guerrilla offer



Senior José Napoleón Duarte, President-elect of El Salvador, who has been offered negotiations on ending the civil war by left-wing guerrillas. *Page 4*

Red enterprise

There are peasants in China who buy tractors and hire them out, privately. Others rent out their land and cooperate on handicrafts. It is all permissible now. *Page 6*

Bomb victim dies

Mrs Barbara Harrold, of Ighiteam, Kent, who was badly injured by an exploding parcel bomb, has died without regaining consciousness. *Page 3*

Unpopular

Britain is the country all other EEC members love to hate, according to a poll taken for the European Parliament. Most friendly to the British are the Irish. *Page 6*

Lloyd chosen

Andy Lloyd, the Warwickshire batsman and a new member of the England squad, has been included in the England squad for the one-day series against West Indies. *Page 13*

Sailing first

Cathy Foster became the first woman to be selected for Britain's Olympic yachting team when she won the 470 class trial race at Weymouth. *Page 13*

Leader page, 11
Letters: On arms sales, from Mr R. H. Purvis, and Mr D. L. Giles; North London Polytechnic, from Lord Annan; Poland, from Lady Cox.
Leading articles: Cabinet government, El Salvador; May Bank Holiday.
Features, pages 8-10
The Channel and European unity; why Americans see Reagan differently; the problems of being a Scottish author; stately homes without the gimmicks; Spectrum: Quintin Crisp extols life in New York; Monday page: treasure hunting.

Home News	2,3	Parliament	12
Overseas	4,6	Prem Bonds	20
Arts	17	Religion	12
Church	12	Science	72
Court	12	Sport	13-16
Crossword	20	TV & Radio	19
Diary	18	Theatre, etc	19
Law Report	17	Weather	28
Obituary	12	Wills	12

US ready to send tanker aircraft to Saudis

By Our Foreign Staff

In an attempt to increase the ability of the Saudi Air Force to protect the Gulf shipping lanes from Iranian attack, the United States is considering the supply of KC135 airborne tankers to Saudi Arabia. The tankers would be used to refuel the F15 fighters supplied to the Saudis during the Carter Administration.

According to official sources in Washington, details of the deal have still to be worked out. The Saudis have offered to buy or lease the tanker aircraft. However, there is resistance from the powerful Israeli lobby on Capitol Hill, which is opposed to the supply of any equipment which might one day be used against Israel. For this reason a renewed Saudi request for bomb racks for the F15s is again likely to be rejected.

The Pentagon has sent its senior Middle East expert, Major-General Edward Tixier, to Saudi Arabia with instructions to coordinate and expedite the supply of American military equipment.

Meanwhile, with no sign that either Iran or Iraq is prepared to cease attacks on shipping in the Gulf, Japanese shipowners announced at the weekend that they would temporarily stop sending Japanese-crewed tankers to ports on the northern Gulf coast.

The move followed a missile attack on Thursday against the Liberian-registered Chemical Venture, a 29,000-ton tanker under charter to the Japanese, and protests from the Japanese seamen's union.

Japan, which in 1983 took more than 65 per cent of its crude oil imports of 3.5 million barrels a day from the Gulf, will continue, however, to send in tankers crewed by foreign seamen.

A leading Swedish tanker operator, Salen Tanker AB, also announced yesterday that it was

recalling its tankers from the Gulf because of the dangers of the Iran-Iraq war. The company has two vessels in the area, one of which was set on fire, apparently by Iraqi missiles, on April 25.

There has so far been no similar move from British shipowners, but the National Union of Seamen reiterated its warning yesterday that it may soon tell members to keep out of the Gulf.

The union spokesman, Mr Jim Jump, said the NUS was "desperately keen" to avoid such a measure because it might involve its members defying the orders of captains or senior officers.

The union wants the Government to intervene, but has been told in a letter from Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, that British seamen are "free agents" to decline or accept work on ships going to a zone of potential risk.

There are increasing signs that the danger, and the searing insurance rates, are having a marked effect on trade in the Gulf. It was reported yesterday that the number of tankers lying idle off the ports of Fujairah and Khor Fakkan, just outside Gulf waters, has risen from its normal total of about 10 to 60.

However, officials at the important Abu Dhabi oil terminal, inside the Gulf, reported that oil tanker movements there were normal. Neighbouring Dubai port also claimed normal traffic, although shipping sources there said it would take some time for attacks on vessels at the northern tip of the Gulf to affect movements at the lower end of the waterway.

Lloyd's insurance market in London has boosted the cost of war risk premiums for ships travelling to Iran's Kharg Island terminal and Bushehr port three times in the past month.

Concern in Pretoria, page 4

Death of detente blamed on US

From Richard Owen, Moscow

With Russia in an increasingly angry, defensive and isolationist mood, a leading Kremlin spokesman officially announced the death of detente at the weekend, noting that Soviet-American relations had sunk to "their lowest level for the entire period since the Second World War".

Speaking on the television programme *Studio Nine* on Saturday, Mr Leonid Zamyatin, head of the party's International

Relations Department, said the Russian Administration was not interested in dialogue with Moscow and on many issues had no stand at all. Washington's attempt to isolate Russia economically and politically was a "political miscalculation".

Mr Zamyatin, a Kremlin hardliner whose career suffered setbacks in 1982, returned to prominence with the Korean airliner crisis of September last year, when he fiercely defended the Soviet action in public and

blamed the United States. Analysts trace the beginning of the present East-West freeze to the airliner tragedy, when Mr Reagan suggested contemptuously that Russia did not belong among the civilized nations.

Soviet officials say the Nato missile deployments shortly afterwards confirmed Moscow's worst fears about Mr Reagan. Some sources claim that President Chernenko fought a rearguard action to salvage detente when he came to power in February. Politburo hardliners imposed a series of harsh anti-Western moves including the Olympic boycott.

Russia's new mood of aggressive isolationism also extends to China, apparently jeopardizing recent moves towards a Sino-Soviet rapprochement. Mr Zamyatin bitterly attacked Mr Reagan's recent visit to Peking, saying Mr Reagan had "taken advantage of the Chinese leadership's anti-sovietism" to reach agreement with China on common military interests in the Far East. Mr Zamyatin castigated Mr Deng Xiaoping for opening the door to Western economic penetration of China, and said that although Peking had censured some of Mr Reagan's more anti-Soviet remarks it had failed to dissociate itself from his belligerent rhetoric.

"The Russians have curled up into a ball like a hedgehog," one western diplomat commented at the weekend, "and the spikes are pointing at China and Japan as well as America and Western Europe".

Three Israelis die in Lebanon ambush

Three Israeli soldiers were killed in an ambush in southern Lebanon yesterday (Moshe Kamind-Luz writes from Tel Aviv).

The Army radio station said two jeeps with soldiers were attacked at 1.30am south of Kamind-Luz, near the ceasefire line separating Israeli and Syrian forces.

The gunmen fired a rocket-propelled grenade and automatic weapons, killing the three men outright and injuring two others, one seriously. Reinforcements were sent to search for the killers.

Israeli radio said Israeli fatalities since the invasion of Lebanon in 1982 had reached 583.

Argentina frees daughter of Briton

From Douglas Tweedale, Buenos Aires

Miss Daisy Jane Hobson, an Anglo-Argentine woman held for a political prisoner, for nearly eight years by Argentina's former military regime, was freed by the country's civilian government last week.

Miss Hobson, aged 33, was released on bail on Thursday last week of proceedings and sometimes confusing rulings by the two judges handling her case.

Telephoned at her family home in Buenos Aires, Miss Hobson told *The Times*: "It's fantastic. For now, I am simply enjoying the taste of freedom."

Where great ships perish

From Robert Fisk, At sea in the Gulf

They call it the ships' graveyard although the term is cruelly premature. For the great tankers that Iran and Iraq have destroyed have been towed here in terminal condition, bleeding fuel oil into the warm, muddy brown waves in the very centre of the Gulf, a series of huge jagged holes in their scalded superstructure to show how they met their end.

The Iranian Phantom jet hit the 29,000-ton Chemical Venture so accurately last Thursday that its missile plunged into the very centre of the bridge. There is a 40ft sign there saying "No smoking" in the middle of the superstructure and the rocket took out the letters "S" and "H".

The tanker crews along the Gulf were growing restive over the dangers yesterday - up to 25 ships were riding at anchor off the Emirates alone, waiting for instructions from their owners - and you have only to take a look at the rain of the Al Hoot to see why. The 117,000-ton supertanker is listing with a hole the size of a London bus along her waterline where an Iraqi missile exploded three weeks ago. The superstructure has been twisted back and outwards over the stern and the crews' quarters have simply melted down as if they were made of plastic rather than iron. The gash on the starboard side is so deep that you can see daylight through it.

Just to the north lies the 178,000-ton Safina Al-Arah, moving restlessly to the swell as a Swedish-registered tanker tries to take off the last of her crude oil. The stuff is everywhere, down the sides of the ship, across the water, turning even the foam on the waves dark. You can smell it from a mile away.

The salvage crews - Dutchmen for the most part with a fair sprinkling of Filipinos - know the risks but stroll the decks as if they were in harbour, rather than sitting on bombs 72 miles out into the Gulf from Bahrain.

It is an isolated place. On the map of the Middle East, the Gulf seems just a crack in the land-mass but the seas can be rough - as they were yesterday - and the horizon featureless save for the vulnerable and lonely tankers battling through the hot winds up to Ras Tanura and Kuwait. They have no convoys to sail in protection from the air and they creep these days as close as they can to the southern shore-line.

They passed us yesterday, ill-painted for the most part as they ploughed through the heat haze, targets of opportunity for either side in the upper reaches of the Gulf, depending on their masters and their port of call.

The waters of the Gulf should be polluted by now but they are alive with flying fish and porpoises and even turtles. Big-beaked black cormorants effortlessly outflow our fast Bahraini patrol boat yesterday though they kept well clear of the graveyard.

The only sign of President Reagan's concern was the discreet grey majesty of the USS Luce, a Seventh Fleet missile cruiser that lay all Saturday off the Mina Salman channel outside Bahrain harbour, a picket boat filled with armed sailors slowly circling her to ward off any unconventional attackers. Her radio traffic, clearly audible on ship-to-ship radio in the Gulf, seemed mostly bound up with the complexities of bringing new video films on board for the crew. But yesterday afternoon, a smaller US patrol craft moved into the port and the USS Luce, without publicity, steamed off into the sweltering dusk to its in-house entertainment presumably updated.

A day out in the wind, mud, and rain Britain shivers in holiday misery



Mr Arthur Scargill chatting to a picket at Orgreave coking plant, South Yorkshire, yesterday.

The Spring Holiday week-end reaches its climax today with a good chance of its being the coldest and wettest on record. The unrelenting rain kept holidaymakers at home yesterday, leaving resorts, in the AA's words, "damp, dismal, and largely deserted".

An average 16.6 millimetres of rain fell on Saturday, just 8 millimetres less than the amount for three days in June, 1954, so far the wettest Spring Holiday.

The coldest average temperature for three days - 13.5°C - was recorded in May, 1981. But this year's temperatures, 10.6°C on Saturday and 9°C yesterday, are lower. "It won't take much to make this the worst Spring Holiday", a London Weather Centre official said.

The United States evangelist, Dr Billy Graham, wore two sets of thermal underwear when he preached to a congregation of 16,000 shivering souls at Roker Park, Sunderland's football ground, on Saturday. "It was the coldest weather I have ever preached in out in the open air", he said.

Holiday traffic was fairly busy on Saturday but roads throughout the country returned to normal Sunday levels yesterday, apart from around the west coast of Scotland where fine weather brought some holidaymakers out.

The motoring organizations reported that roads to seaside resorts were in many cases less busy than on a normal weekend and the RAC said that its most common call from members was for assistance to start a car affected by damp.

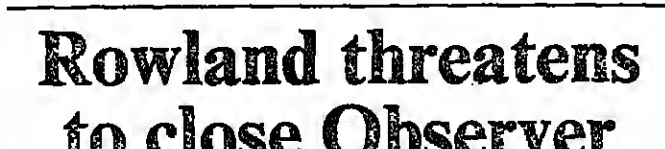
The RAC added that cross-Channel travellers could face problems because an industrial dispute at Calais which meant that most sailings had to be diverted to Dunkirk or Boulogne. Nearly all ferries were fully booked. Dover and Folkestone were crowded well before 8am, with a long queue outside Dover's eastern dock.

The AA said that a strike by petrol attendants on Italian autostradas was due to start tomorrow and continue until Saturday, closing filling stations between 6.30pm and 7.30am.

In the Channel yesterday, a Russian cargo ship came to the rescue when three British sailors got into difficulty. The crew and their 30ft yacht, the Garnele, sent an SOS message after hitting bad weather 20 miles off Cherbourg and were picked up by the Russian cargo ship, the Sena.

The Sena towed the yacht to the Isle of Wight coast where she was helped into port by the Bembridge lifeboat.

Leading article, page 11
Forecast, back page



Runners getting ready for the East London Half Marathon (Photograph: Suresh Karadia).

Rowland threatens to close Observer

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland, owner of *The Observer*, has threatened to close the paper after yesterday's edition was lost because of a pay dispute with printworkers.

More than 50 machine managers, crucial to the paper's production, refused to work unless they were awarded a pay rise similar to other production employees. All 875,000 copies were lost, at a cost of £400,000.

Management has refused to accede to the men's demands and yesterday there were no plans to bring the two sides together. Observer directors and industrial relations experts meet today to plan the next move.

Mr Rowland, who is said to be taking "an extremely robust" view of the dispute, is demanding a swift resolution of the conflict, which follows his recent row with the editor over

reported army atrocities in Zimbabwe, where Mr Rowland's company Lonrho has considerable assets.

In a brief interview with *The Times* yesterday he agreed that the dispute was at a sensitive stage and added: "The paper has had three owners in five years. There must be something very odd about that."

The dispute is essentially about differentials. In early April the Lonrho board agreed to pay the machine managers an extra 50p an hour, taking the average for a Saturday shift to £120, after prolonged negotiations with Observer management had broken down. The men had been demanding an extra £2.70 an hour to equate their hourly rate with typesetters who are fellow members of the National Graphical Association.

That sentence was overruled last week under a new law passed by the civilian administration of President Ramon Alfonsín, but the evidence against her must be examined by a civilian judge to determine whether a new trial should be held.

Miss Hobson is also awaiting sentence on a separate charges brought against her in 1979 by the military regime which accused her of belonging to the banned People's Revolutionary Army and of taking part in a kidnapping.

After what she described as "nearly a month of physical and psychological torture" at a police station, she was sent to the first of three prisons where she was held, at times in deplorable conditions.

She was accused of illegal arms possession and other crimes, and sentenced to 22 years in prison by a military judge, who reportedly told her before the trial began: "Nothing will save you from the punishment we are going to give you."

Miss Hobson still faces one, and possibly two, trials for alleged political crimes arising from her arrest in 1976 and a

Threat to Graham's TUC seat by left

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

Mr Alistair Graham, a prominent right-winger, is in danger of losing his seat on the TUC General Council. Mr Graham, general secretary of the Civil and Public Services Association and a moderate contender for the post of TUC general secretary, is the victim of a left-wing coup in his union.

An emergency meeting of the union's executive last week gave notice that it would probably nominate Mr Kevin Roddy, a supporter of the Militant Tendency, as the union's representative.

Mr Roddy, an executive member, was narrowly beaten for the union's presidency by Mrs Kate Losinska, the veteran right-winger.

The final decision on the nomination will be made at executive meetings on June 17 and June 18. But with a 23 to 6 majority for the broad left group, which includes communists and Militant supporters, there seems little possibility of the decision being reversed.

Under new rules the union is entitled to one seat on the general council because it has 198,000 members. The CSPA will be the first group to nominate a representative who is not the effective head of a union.

Mrs Losinska said yesterday: "I don't believe that the proposed nomination will reflect the wishes of the members of the union."

Mr Ray Alderson, left-wing vice-president, said yesterday that if a vote were taken now, Mr Graham would not take up the seat. There was, however, a difference of opinion on the left.

"Some believe that he should be nominated with the proviso that he be made to abide by conference decisions and the wishes of the executive. Others believe that he has taken such a high profile in going against the union's policies, that he should not be nominated."

It is understood that Labour left-wingers and Communists believe there are more important battles, such as the wages and "unionization" fight. But Militant Tendency supporters take a hard line.

Mrs Losinska believes that the election which changed a 24 to 5 right-wing majority into a 23 to 6 left-wing one, was "a mess".

The union's accountants have been asked to investigate the poll.

The complaints about the election centre mainly on an unusually large number of returns which arrived after the closing date on May 11. The right believes their inclusion would have led to a closer result.

Just over 62,000 members voted in the presidential election, out of 190,000 eligible. Out of 931 branches, 106 took no part and the returns of 85 were ruled invalid because they were late.

"Coffee croissants and The Times at 600am. Certainly Sir"

HOTEL PICCADILLY
PICCADILLY CIRCUS, LONDON W1A 0AX

The best hotel in the North of England

Embassy Hotels

College lecturers likely to reject arbitration over pay offer

By David Jobbins, of The Times Higher Educational Supplement

College lecturers are almost certain to reject arbitration even if school teachers accept it as a way out of the deadlock over pay.

Instead, they will rely on industrial action to improve the rejected offer of a rise of 4.5 per cent if, as expected, the local authority employers refuse to offer more money to new talks.

Mr Peter Dawson, general secretary of the main union involved, the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education, said yesterday that, although arbitration would have to be considered if it was accepted by the school teachers' lecturers had not found it helpful in the past.

The union's annual conference in Birmingham effectively endorsed rejection of the offer of 4 per cent and £330 for lecturers stuck at the top point of the lowest salary scale, which was originally recommended by their negotiators. The union is claiming a big percentage rise and automatic transfer for lecturers on the lowest grade.

It is to strike for a day if the offer is not improved and only members directly involved in examinations will be exempted. Further action is being planned for the autumn term.

Mr Dawson told the conference that in rejecting the offer lecturers had said they had enough of constant erosion of salaries and low pay offers when a rise of 16 per cent was needed to restore living standards of four years ago.

The conference also threatened national industrial action if the Labour-controlled Gwent County Council persists in its threat to dismiss more than 300 lecturers who have refused to accept extra teaching hours.

The conference also voted to

NUT criticized for cancelling meeting

The National Union of Teachers' decision to cancel a bargaining session with county councilors was described yesterday as incomprehensible by the local authorities' chief negotiator in the pay dispute.

Mr Philip Merridale, a Hampshire councillor who is head of the management side in the statutory Burnham pay committee, said that the special session had been organized at the NUT's insistence. The withdrawal was extraordinary.

In response to pressure from Labour councillors (mainly representing London and the big cities) who want to see the teachers' pay dispute go to arbitration, Mr Merridale agreed last week to convene the management panel, where the Conservative counties have a majority.

But the NUT took exception to Mr Merridale's wish to hold the panel discussion after a bilateral meeting between teachers and the county councils on June 8.

Mr Douglas McAvoy, who is acting in the prolonged absence of Mr Fred Jarvis, said on Saturday that the counties were vacillating. "There is no way the NUT is going to be used as an excuse for any delay in recalling the management side."

But Mr Merridale said that it would be foolish to bring people long distances to a management panel until everything possible had been done to contribute to a fruitful discussion.



Towering achievement: The Yellow Submarine exerts a circuitous attraction for young visitors. (Photographs: Harry Kerr).

The solid legacy of Liverpool's festival

From Alan Hamilton, Liverpool

Stand on the conning tower of the Yellow Submarine, look past the statue of John Lennon over the verdant panorama of a quarter of a million newly planted trees, and your eye is drawn to a hideous expanse on the horizon - a huge, deserted, rotting housing estate on a hilltop in Toxteth, its very last window boarded up against vandals.

Liverpool, faced with bankruptcy, an unemployment rate of over 25 per cent and some of the most dilapidated housing in Europe, has found itself playing unlikely host to the largest open-air event in Britain, built on what only two years ago was a stinking rubbish dump.

Since it was opened by the Queen two weeks ago, more than 200,000 people have visited the Liverpool International Garden Festival. Its promoters hope that, by the time it closes in October, a significant part of their £30m outlay will have been recovered in gate money and sponsorship.

An initially hostile city council softened its attitude, although it takes the view that it cannot scrape an already empty barrel to fund what is essentially a temporary tourist attraction, whose £3.50 entrance charge is unlikely to appeal to the poor, old and unemployed. It has however contributed nearly £600,000 to the exhibition's cost.

The exhibition has been created and funded by the Merseyside Development Corporation, set up by Mr Michael Heseltine when he

was Secretary of State for the Environment, before his celebrated post-riot visit to the city.

Critics say that the massive task of transforming the site from a rubbish tip and a long-redundant oil tank farm created fewer than 400 temporary jobs for local people, and that the 800 service workers employed on the exhibits will be redundant in the autumn.

Mr Leslie Young, chairman of the development corporation, rejects the criticisms.

Had the city not made a bid to stage this year's International Garden Festival, Mr Young said it would have gone to a rival, Stoke-on-Trent.

Winning the coveted international exhibition from the Bureau International des Expositions in Paris, gardening's equivalent of the International

Olympic Committee, provided the necessary impetus to have the site ready in time.

In just over two years the area was cleared and the rubbish tip capped with clay to contain the methane gas generated by the rotting garbage. Beneath the garden lies the equivalent of a small North Sea gas field. The gas is being flared off to waste but there are plans to harness it for heating the site.

The site was covered with four million tonnes of imported topsoil, into which were planted 250,000 trees and more than 300,000 bulbs, plants and shrubs. Many governments - and the city of Stoke-on-Trent - have created national gardens, some of which will remain. Also to remain are a public house and a promenade along the Mersey.



Extradition warrant out for Maze escaper

From Richard Ford, Belfast

The first escaper from the Maze Prison to be recaptured since the week of the mass breakout last September by 38 republican prisoners was arrested on Saturday in a Dublin housing estate.

Robert Russell was detained when Special Branch officers from the republic's force, acting on information, raided a flat in the working class Ballyman area of north Dublin.

Russell, aged 25, who had been serving a 20-year jail sentence imposed in 1978 for the attempted murder of Police Supt Ernest Drew in Belfast in the same year, was taken to the city's Bridewell under section 30 of the Republic's Offences Against the State Act.

Northern Ireland police said yesterday that they had issued a warrant for his arrest for escaping from custody and would be seeking his extradition from the republic.

However, a long legal battle is likely to take place before that occurs because Russell, from west Belfast, is likely to resist extradition. Appeals may be made to the High Court and the Supreme Court.

Mr Gerry Adams, Provisional Sinn Féin MP for West Belfast, said that any attempt to extradite Russell would be treacherous.

Of the 38 prisoners who escaped from the Maze, 19 were recaptured immediately or within two days of the breakout.

The National Federation of Anglers is suspending competitions in Northern Ireland after the Provisional IRA booby trap car bomb which killed two off-duty soldiers at a fishing contest.

A junior international competition between Ireland and England due to be held in Fermanagh in July has been cancelled and the federation is suspending involvement in other events because of the bomb outside the Lakedale Forum at Enniskillen 10 days ago.

Almost 400 workers at the Northern Ireland factory of the Lear Fan aircraft company are to be made redundant this week as the firm "mothballs" its operation in the province.

Continuing delays in getting certificates for the company's executive jet has forced the Nevada-based company to act to preserve the remaining finances.

The employees are expected to be laid off until next February when the aircraft, its body made from carbon fibre, is due to get final certification from the United States Federal Authority.

The British Government has invested £50m in the project, but is reluctant to commit any more cash.

The Northern Ireland Police Federation is to apply to the High Court this week for a judicial ruling on whether it has the right to sue its own funds on a £1m recreation centre for members of the RUC and their families.

The Chief Constable has said that the project is outside the federation's remit and the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland has asked for a delay.



Robert Russell: Was serving 20 years for murder attempt.

Racism complaints monitored

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Police forces in England and Wales are keeping records of all complaints of racism against officers as part of a Home Office policy to monitor attacks on ethnic groups.

The records were started after a Home Office survey of attacks against minorities. They cover all types of crime where a racial element may be involved.

If a complaint had been made against Mr Peter Johnson, the Durham police inspector who resigned last week after speaking of "nig nogs" at a Police Federation conference, it would have been recorded.

There is no specific rule in police regulations about racism; that comes under a section referring to bringing discredit on the police service.

The present number of complaints against the police on racial grounds is not available. The Home Office said yesterday. The Metropolitan Police said

that none had been recorded against them since they started keeping records at the beginning of this year.

More cautions

More than 1,000 minor offenders, 400 of them shoplifters, have been released by the police with a caution as part of a new scheme which began in the London area two months ago.

It was introduced after an experimental scheme at a London police station with drunk and disorderly offenders.

The large number of shoplifters who who will not face a court appearance will be welcomed by critics who in the past have attacked prosecutions for thefts involving small sums.

Guidelines were issued by Sir Michael Havers, QC, the Attorney General, in February which allowed the police to decide if there were grounds for caution.

The guidelines ask officers to consider among other factors the cost and the time trial might involve for a petty offence.

Offenders are required to admit their crime and sign a form before being cautioned by a senior officer. Details are kept in case there is a further offence.

A total of 1,066 people have been cautioned so far. They include 250 for offences such as drunkenness and obstruction; 100 for criminal damage; 100 for minor drug possession; and 25 incidents of fraud such as failure to pay a fare.

Other categories include urinating in public and minor instances of indecent exposure.

Pilgrimage

Seven thousand pilgrims will go in procession today to the Anglican Merian shrine at Walsingham, Norfolk.

Union urges D-Day TV disruption

The National Union of Journalists is urging members at the BBC to disrupt programmes in protest at Mr David Dimbleby's involvement in an outside broadcast on the D-Day landings.

Representatives from more than 60 chapels (office branches) in radio and television meet this week to decide on action.

The union's broadcasting industrial council believes that the corporation has decided to "take the NUJ on".

The council will urge the 60 delegates to hold mandatory meetings, including those which would disrupt the local, regional and national services leading up to the D-Day programme on June 6.

Mr Dimbleby's Richmond and Twickenham Times newspaper group is in dispute with the union.

Staged rise likely for doctors and top paid

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Ministers are expected to agree to another staged pay increase for doctors and dentists and the 1,800 higher civil servants, members of the judiciary and senior officers in the Armed Forces after Parliament reconvenes next week.

Such awards are designed to damp down jealousy in the public sector where the Cabinet is to be asked to hold the pay line in spite of recommendations from independent pay review bodies. An exception is to be made for nurses who are in line for a rise of about 7 per cent.

It is understood that the Doctors and Dentists Review Body and the Top Salaries Review Body have called for increases in excess of the 3 per cent Whitehall pay factor.

The teachers, who have been offered 4.5 per cent, are in dispute and ministers will be keen to do nothing to encourage their expectations of an improvement.

The complexities of staged awards often prove difficult for outsiders to unravel.

Last year's pay package, announced by the Prime Minister on July 21, included an increase on top salaries from August 1 rather than April 1, along with payment of a further 5 per cent abatement from 1982 from last January. The increase in the pay bill for 1983-84 was estimated at 5.85 per cent.

However, the salary of Sir Robert Armstrong, Secretary to the Cabinet, increased from £42,000 by 7.1 per cent to £44,500 in August, and then by

a further 6.7 per cent to £47,500 in January.

The increase in salary, between July and January, for the assorted generals, admirals, judges, under-secretaries and deputy-secretaries, ranged from 11 per cent and the highest salary, for the Lord Chief Justice, increased from £52,500 to £56,000.

Salaries for permanent secretaries and Cabinet ministers from January 1 have been set at £42,750 and £40,950. Under a staged increase policy for ministers and MPs, Cabinet ministers are to get £42,980 next January - but by then, even if top salaries are increased by only 3 per cent, their civil servants will have kept ahead in cash terms if not in terms of percentage differential.

The Government is offering MPs a £4.5m top-up contribution for the parliamentary pension scheme, according to a Bill for Westminster pensions, published last week.

The main cost, of £3m, results from a proposal that MPs should be entitled to full pension of two-thirds of the £16,106 salary after 33 years 4 months rather than 40 years, accruing at a rate of one-fifth a year rather than the present one-sixth.

The additional £1.5m has been set aside for other benefits including the possibility of full pension at 60, after 20 years' service, rather than at 62.

The Bill proposes that MPs' contributions should increase from 6 per cent of salary to 9 per cent by January, 1987.

Prayers for Abbeystead victims

Villagers at St Michael's on Wyre, Lancashire, prayed yesterday for friends killed and injured in the Abbeystead water works explosion.

The tragedy claimed another life at the weekend when the village's postmaster, Mr Frank Coupe, aged 61, died of his injuries, bringing the number killed to 10. Thirty three are still in hospital, two critically ill.

Villagers packed the church at St Michael's where the Rev Lawrence Davies, asked them to pray for the victims, their families and friends.

Many were in tears as he described how the disaster had brought the community closer together.

"Everyone in church today knew someone who had been killed or injured. It was a very emotional occasion," Mr Davies said. "It was a village, family occasion."

Two pensioners injured in the explosion were still on the critical list yesterday at the Royal Lancaster Infirmary. A third victim was stable. At Withington Hospital, Manchester, the condition of three patients was described as serious but stable.

A fire and explosion at a reservoir in co Durham caused an estimated £1m of damage, the police said yesterday.

The fire at the reservoir at Mill Hill, Peterlee, is thought to have been started deliberately.

The Bill proposes that MPs' contributions should increase from 6 per cent of salary to 9 per cent by January, 1987.

Thatcher praises GCHQ over special operation

From Peter Hennessy, Cheltenham

The Prime Minister has sent a letter of congratulation to Mr Peter Marquand, director of the Government Communications Headquarters, thanking him for the accomplishment of a delicate and intricate intelligence operation.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher expressed her understanding of the unsettling effect that depriving staff of their trade union rights has had since March 1. She reaffirmed the high premium she places on the work of the Cheltenham centre.

The special operation which

inspired Mrs Thatcher's comments is not thought to be connected with the affair of the Libyan People's Bureau.

There are strong indications, however, that unknown to the Prime Minister, some of those most closely involved in it have refused to sign away their union rights and face the prospect of transfer to another part of the Civil Service.

A union source said: "The idea that trade unionists could not be loyal is shown to be the nonsense it always was."

Healey would have lost election, Kinnock says

By Our Political Correspondent

Labour would have lost the last general election even if Mr Denis Healey had replaced Mr Michael Foot as leader, Mr Neil Kinnock said in an interview published yesterday.

He told John Mortimer in *The Sunday Times*: "If he'd been at the head of a united party Michael would have been seen as an attractive and convincing leader."

"The splits and quarrels made him look weak. I don't think Denis Healey could have done much better. Given the chaos in the party, electors would have denied their confidence to Denis as well."

Mr Kinnock was asked whether Labour could ever be

united. He said: "We were in 1945 and 1964. I've been reading what Attlee said about the party before the war. There were the same splits then, the same tendency to adopt causes to the exclusion of the general requirement."

"There were splits over disarmament and between those who believed in parliamentary progress and those who thought it could be done by a general strike."

Mr Kinnock also said that Labour would never align itself with the Liberal-SDP Alliance.

"It will never happen. If it did we'd end up with diluted policies," he said.

Tory vote is vote for fear - Kinnock

By Our Political Correspondent

"On June 14 the people of Britain and of the rest of the Common Market can vote to show that the lesson is remembered and that they will not have it repeated."

They can vote to show that they understand that fear and violence and fanaticism grow out of the despair of idleness and poverty."

Mr Kinnock said that the voters had a choice between the Conservative record of "run-down and rip-off" and "graveyard economics", or Labour's alternative for investment, training, growth and employment.

Mr Kinnock said that the last time that the leaders of Europe thought that economics could be shrunken into solvency, that mass unemployment could produce prosperity, he said.

Mr Neil Kinnock said last night that a vote for the Conservatives on June 14 would be a vote for fear, violence and fanaticism.

Speaking in Edinburgh at a festival for a socialist Europe, the Labour leader hinted that the Conservatives were creating all the political and economic ingredients for another round of European conflict.

He said: "Those who believe with them that the slump should be allowed to stumble on had better remember that the last time Europe was split and smashed, the economic and political rulers of this continent had let unemployment run out

Canadian fishermen kill baby seals. Don't buy Canadian fish.

IFAW

Please send us a donation. International Fund for Animal Welfare. Tubwell House, 28 New Rd, Croydon, Surrey.

كندا، ان لا تشتري

Salvadoran in the air

Prepared to have negotiations with UN

Salvadoran President Roberto D'Aubert has said his country is prepared to have negotiations with the United Nations on the war, bombings of the civilian population and the taking of political prisoners.

Mr D'Aubert, who is in the United States, said he was prepared to have negotiations with the UN on the war, bombings of the civilian population and the taking of political prisoners.

Mr D'Aubert, who is in the United States, said he was prepared to have negotiations with the UN on the war, bombings of the civilian population and the taking of political prisoners.

Stalinists lose jobs in Helsinki purge

The Helsinki party congress, which ended last night, saw the Stalinists lose jobs in Helsinki.

The Helsinki party congress, which ended last night, saw the Stalinists lose jobs in Helsinki.

The Helsinki party congress, which ended last night, saw the Stalinists lose jobs in Helsinki.

Peace in the air at border flashpoint

Foreign ministers met on Saturday amid the bomb-out ruins of this small frontier town to put the commission to work. They signed a bilateral agreement, the first positive achievement of the 18-month-old Contadora peace process.

Foreign ministers met on Saturday amid the bomb-out ruins of this small frontier town to put the commission to work. They signed a bilateral agreement, the first positive achievement of the 18-month-old Contadora peace process.

Foreign ministers met on Saturday amid the bomb-out ruins of this small frontier town to put the commission to work. They signed a bilateral agreement, the first positive achievement of the 18-month-old Contadora peace process.



After Soliman's winning a vote public appearance to accept an honorary doctorate from Holy Cross University, Massachusetts.

Violent mars Egyptian election

As millions of Egyptians voted yesterday in what has been billed by the Government as the fairest election in the country's history, the ruling National Democratic Party of President Mubarak was accused of strong-arm tactics, vote-rigging and involvement in two deaths.

As millions of Egyptians voted yesterday in what has been billed by the Government as the fairest election in the country's history, the ruling National Democratic Party of President Mubarak was accused of strong-arm tactics, vote-rigging and involvement in two deaths.

As millions of Egyptians voted yesterday in what has been billed by the Government as the fairest election in the country's history, the ruling National Democratic Party of President Mubarak was accused of strong-arm tactics, vote-rigging and involvement in two deaths.

Countrymen they must face reality

From Michael Horvath, Johannesburg.

Countrymen they must face reality.

Countrymen they must face reality.

Self-sufficiency plan for Africa

The growing political role of the KGB has been confirmed by the introduction of "generalissimo" as a KGB rank. It was previously confined to the Army and has only ever been held by Stalin.

The growing political role of the KGB has been confirmed by the introduction of "generalissimo" as a KGB rank. It was previously confined to the Army and has only ever been held by Stalin.

The growing political role of the KGB has been confirmed by the introduction of "generalissimo" as a KGB rank. It was previously confined to the Army and has only ever been held by Stalin.

Chief of state

to visit Moscow

Chief of state to visit Moscow.

Chief of state to visit Moscow.

Chief of state to visit Moscow.

Marshall's job

Marshall's job.

Marshall's job.

Marshall's job.

Grenada job

Grenada job.

Grenada job.

Grenada job.

Alarm signal

Alarm signal.

Alarm signal.

Alarm signal.

Tea money

Tea money.

Tea money.

Tea money.

Dutch minister seeks way out of cruise impasse

From Robert Schell, Amsterdam.

Dutch minister seeks way out of cruise impasse.

Dutch minister seeks way out of cruise impasse.

Spy trial of diplomat troubles Norway's left

From Ulf Andersen Oslo.

Spy trial of diplomat troubles Norway's left.

Spy trial of diplomat troubles Norway's left.

Generalissimo rank confirms political rise of KGB

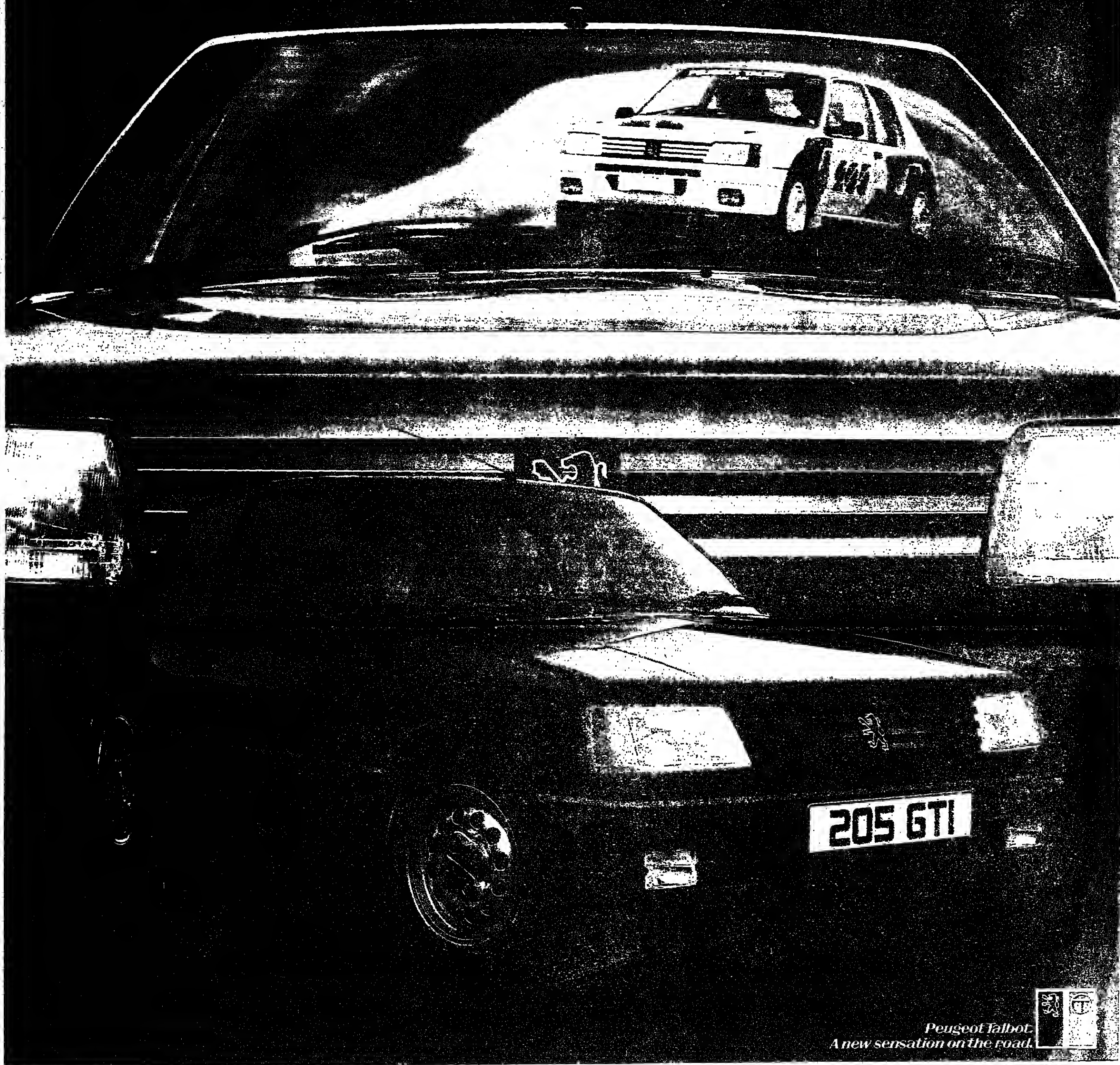
From Richard Owen, Moscow.

Generalissimo rank confirms political rise of KGB.

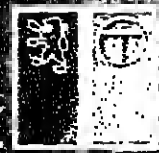
Generalissimo rank confirms political rise of KGB.

205 GTI. 118 MPH.

Two new numbers to be reckoned with.



Peugeot Talbot
A new sensation on the road.



Its top speed may make you yearn for an autobahn, but that alone doesn't make it a GTI.

What follows, does. Because the 205 GTI isn't merely a modified saloon. It's a purpose-built performance machine.

So, under the bonnet, you'll find a newly developed 1.6 litre, 105 bhp (PS-DIN) fuel injected power plant that urges you past 60 mph in a fraction over 9 seconds. It also sports a close ratio 5 speed gearbox that

lets you pile on near maximum torque from 2,700 rpm all the way up to 5,500 rpm, from first to fifth.

So it's as smooth as it's swift.

Its low, taut suspension has been specially tuned. Combined with the latest Michelin MXV low profile tyres, it easily holds its own in tight corners.

What's stopping you? A totally new braking system, with ventilated front discs, and strong servo assistance to boot.

Thirst for power, however, hasn't

led to a powerful thirst. Better than any of its rivals, the 205 GTI can return over 50 mpg at a constant 56 mph.

Happily, running costs were the only economies we considered. Elsewhere, we've been positively lavish.

Alloy wheels. Twin halogen driving lamps in the front spoiler. Tinted glass. A radio/stereo cassette. Six dial instrument cluster, including oil temperature and pressure gauges.

Reclining front sport seats, with

headrests. Dividing seats in the rear (It can turn into an estate car behind your back.) Black and red ribbed velour upholstery. Deep red carpets throughout. All standard.

(Electric front windows, and central locking are an optional extra.)

Despite all of the above, the 205 GTI is a surprisingly modest car in one important respect.

It costs just £6,295.

No wonder we can't make them fast enough.

PEUGEOT 205

PEUGEOT 205 GTI TOP SPEED - 118 MPH 0-60 MPH - 9.2 SEC. (MANUFACTURER'S FIGURES) FUEL CONSUMPTION (L/100 KM) AT A CONSTANT 56 MPH - 50.4 MPG (5.6 L/100 KM) AT A CONSTANT 75 MPH - 38.7 MPG (7.1 L/100 KM) SIMULATED URBAN DRIVING - 34.4 MPG (8.1 L/100 KM) PRICE QUOTED INCLUDES REGISTRATION, 12 MONTH TAX AND DELIVERY. FIGURES CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS. UP TO 14.9% V.A.T. SALES ONLY.

Marcos defends need for special arrest powers to tackle subversion

From Keith Dalton, Manila

President Ferdinand Marcos has said he will resist all attempts by the opposition to strip him of his powers of arrest and decree-making, because they are "legitimate tools" to combat Communist subversion.

Presidential powers to legislate by decree and to arrest alleged subversives and hold them indefinitely without charge were not oppressive, Mr Marcos said at a news conference at the presidential palace at the weekend.

"We have to make a decision... either we go to bed with the Communist Party or we fight them. We are fighting them."

A number of presidential decrees signed secretly in 1981 but released late last year increase the penalties for rebellion and subversion from a maximum of six years in jail to life imprisonment or death.

Mr Marcos said those decrees and other extra-parliamentary powers existed to fight subversives and terrorists, and not because he felt his own personal power was at risk.

"Without these presidential decrees and without the power of decree you will have the

Communists going back and forth from jail to the mountain tops and causing this dastardly ruin of our economy, the killing of people, the rape of women and the rape of villages.

"Now I feel it is my duty that we must fight them. And must fight them with all the legitimate tools at our command. I consider the decree-making powers as a legitimate tool against the subversives and terrorists of my country."

The opposition, which won a third of the 183 seats in parliamentary elections a fortnight ago, has promised to launch impeachment proceedings against Mr Marcos and challenge his decree-making powers when the new National Assembly convenes in July.

Mr Marcos laughed off that proposal. He said his decree-making powers were "part of the constitution and unless amended, rescinded or revoked, it remains a part of the constitution whatever assembly is elected to power, including the opposition."

Presidential elections come midway through the six-year term of the new assembly, and Mr Marcos indicated that he would probably be a candidate

in 1987. He is 66 and has held power for 18 years. "If the quality of those aspiring for the presidency in our country does not improve I probably will have to run for President," he said.

The political ambitions of his wife, Imelda, remain unclear. Like other ministers she resigned from her Cabinet post of Human Settlements Minister last week in accordance with the President's wish to reshuffle his Cabinet.

Three Cabinet ministers lost to opposition candidates in the election and Mr Marcos has said that they will be replaced. Yet Mrs Marcos, who did not seek reelection, could be re-appointed to her post.

However, the opposition's most decisive gains were in Manila, where Mrs Marcos was the ruling party's campaign manager. She had predicted a clean sweep for government candidates in Manila, and has not been seen in public since the Government's humiliating defeat in 16 of the capital's 21 seats.

The President said that his wife was "very disappointed" and "that is why she is quiet."

Australia to demand A-test facts

From Tony Dubondin, Melbourne

Australia is investigating a report that a British atomic test on the Monte Bello Islands, off Western Australia, was three times more powerful than Canberra had been led to believe, and that it spread radioactive dust across northern Australia.

Senator Peter Walsh, Minister for Resources and Energy, said that he found out only on Friday that the test on June 19, 1956, code named Mosaic G2, was 60 kilotons not 20 as previously believed.

Figures on the size of the Mosaic G2 test were handed to an officer of the Australian Department of Resources and Energy in London only a month ago by the British Ministry of Defence. It is believed that information about the bomb will be tabled in the Federal Parliament this week.

The size of the Monte Bello test came to light in the British magazine, *New Scientist*, published in London on Friday.

The magazine claims that the Mosaic G2 test was the dirtiest British bomb exploded in Australia and spread fallout over a large part of the country.

When Senator Walsh was told of the report he said: "Some of the allegations in the report are disturbing and I am having this investigated. I have instructed my department to press the British government for further information."

The size of Mosaic G2 test is particularly embarrassing for the Australian government, because last year the Australian Joint Radiation Advisory Council said that none of the tests carried out by Britain in Australia had a yield "much more than the 20 kilotons normally associated with the nuclear weapons used in Japan."

EEC ministers all one happy family

From Ian Murray, Salon de Provence

Despite itself, the EEC is working. Foreign ministers of the Community could agree only on the way to face world crises when they met informally in rain-lashed Provence over the weekend.

They wanted to pursue a firm dialogue with the Warsaw Pact. They wanted to bring every pressure to bear to prise Iran and Iraq apart in the Gulf war — even though they were not worried so far about oil supplies, and they wanted to see the Community progress with Britain as a fully paid-up member.

There was no question of holding a quick conference to set up the federal Europe hinted at last week by President Mitterrand in a speech to the European Parliament. There was no meaningful mention of the British budget problem, which has been poisoning the Community atmosphere recently.

In the words of one British official, the important thing about the meeting was that no decisions were either possible or needed. Ministers could speak their mind without fear of consequences.

At Claude Cheysson, who hosted the gathering in a converted twelfth century abbey, boasted afterwards that it was the kind of relationship "which makes our American friends a little jealous and worried". The relationship was now too close to call the meeting international: it was more like a family gathering.

The family seemed happy to agree that since France took over as president of the Council of Ministers early this year a great deal of difficult business had been fixed very well.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, had noticed a trend to reach decisions through better use of the Community



M Cheysson: 'Americans a little jealous'

institutions and by dint of ministers issuing further instructions for settlements.

As to President Mitterrand's idea for a new treaty aiming at greater European union, Sir Geoffrey insisted that Britain would be present all the way in any preparations. "We are interested in anything that goes on in the European Community," he said. "If a conference takes place, we want to attend."

But for the present, Britain wanted Community effort to be directed at completing the work set out in the existing treaties, such things as allowing cheaper air fares, opening up the insurance market across frontiers, and generally implementing those policies which Britain joined the Community to exploit but which have never been taken up. It also meant finally ending the budget wrangle.

Given Sir Geoffrey's firm pledge of British attachment to the Community — which M Cheysson said was "very satisfying" — there seemed no urgency to press on with President Mitterrand's project.

Nine of the ten ministers met again in Washington today for the thirty fifth anniversary meeting of the North Atlantic Council.

European Notebook

Britain tops unpopularity poll

Britain is the country all other EEC members love to hate most. An average of one in four of the Community population would prefer it to get out.

This is one of the findings of a poll put together for the European Parliament to discover attitudes among voters in the run up to the direct elections in June.

Not surprisingly, the French dislike Britain most, with some 41 per cent saying they would prefer it to leave the Community. The Irish are the most friendly, with only 14 per cent wanting Britain out. But that is still a higher proportion of opposition than is felt by any other country for anybody else.

For its part, Britain reciprocates the French attitude. One in four want France out of the Community, whereas the French are generally fairly popular elsewhere.

As far as feeling in Britain about its own membership is concerned, just 12 per cent want to leave, according to the poll. Anti-Community feeling is higher in Denmark, where 18 per cent want to get out, and in Greece, where 13 per cent want to leave.

Britain's popularity slump has been dramatic since the last direct elections in 1979, just after Mrs Thatcher came to power. At that time only 12 per cent wanted Britain to leave, exactly the same proportion as those opposed to Italian membership. But while Britain has become twice as unpopular, Italy is now twice as popular as it used to be.

For all that the British appear to be generally a happy breed

of men and women in their private lives. They get on better with their friends and families than anyone except the Dutch and the Danes. They are at least as content with their living accommodation as anyone. Only the Irish and the Dutch are happier about their state of health.

But they are easily the most unhappy about the way their local council operates, although less critical about the public services. They are pretty miserable about the work they do and the money they get for it.

As to the future, they are among the most worried about finding jobs for the young, about the rise in terrorism and drug taking. At the other end of the scale they are, apart from the Italians, the least worried about the rapid increase in the population of the Third World.

Overall the Irish seemed most worried about the future and the West Germans seemed most placid. These figures of future worries show that concern rises directly as prosperity of a country falls.

As far as assessing the economic situation is concerned, the poll shows that fewer British feel that things are getting worse than anyone else in the Community, and the average Briton is more inclined to go out and spend any spare money rather than save it than anybody else.

The British are easily the most scathing about protest movements such as the peace groups, with more than 70 per cent believing that these have

either no effect at all or are bad. Fewer British admit to joining demonstrations than people from any other country.

As to the unification of Europe, which was given a strong boost by President Mitterrand last week, the British like most of the EEC neighbours are sceptical. Only the Italians and Greeks on average favour the idea. More than half of the rest believe that unification would have little or no effect on the next generation.

It is in creating jobs that the public generally feel that the EEC can be most helpful, with three out of four considering this should be the main priority of the Community. Scarcely one in four thinks that social welfare can be improved through European cooperation, although one in three of the British believe it could.

As far as the European elections are concerned, the poll reveals that most British voters believe that a Euro-MP should support the interests of his or her country, whether or not they are good for the Community. The Greeks, Danes and Irish (the other late entrants to the Community) tend to feel the same, whereas for the West Germans and the French, Community interests should come first.

The poll was conducted by Gallup and based on interviews among 9,748 people throughout the Community. The largest individual national sample was the 1,356 interviewed in Britain.

Ian Murray

Oriental pragmatism adapts the Communist peasant system



Time for tea-plucking: but China's farmers are turning to new crops to reduce the tea mountain.

Private enterprise finds its place

The creation of a tea mountain demonstrates the difficulty of liberal reform in China, but David Bonavia, in the first of two articles, shows that the government is succeeding in transforming much of the country's agriculture.

There is too much tea in China, it has been said here and abroad — once the all-important totem of Chinese agriculture — being given less and less attention as the peasants and authorities concentrate on other crops and on small industries.

Urged on by the past few years' liberal reforms in agriculture, peasants in tea-growing areas have been reaching for quantity of output rather than quality, and much of their produce remains unsaleable.

The reforms, which are up for discussion at the present session of the National People's Congress here, have helped to maintain a steady increase in grain production which could lead to the abolition of rationing in the next few years, although this has not been officially predicted. Cotton cloth rationing was abolished several months ago.

The growth of small new towns grouped around local processing industries is praised as contributing to industrial development without the high, socially disastrous migration of peasants to large cities, which characterized Europe's industrial revolution.

Not everyone, however, agrees with the new policy, which is based on production contracts between peasant families and their local village authorities. Left-inclined officials condemn as "capitalist" peasants who grow some tobacco for sale, or children who raise a few rabbits.

But the state and the Communist Party are now officially on the side of such enterprising people, some of



CHINA: THE STRUGGLE FOR REFORM Part 1

whose families are reported to be earning as much as £3,000 a year or more, an enormous sum in the Chinese countryside.

There are peasants who have bought tractors and hire them out privately — something that would have been anathema to the late Chairman Mao Tse-tung and still arouses the indignation of those who claim to be the successors to his left-wing policies (including a fair number of mid-level provincial and rural officials).

There are also peasants in more remote or infertile areas

who are living in deep poverty. Their problems will be harder to solve.

Especially controversial now is the policy of permitting peasants to rent out their share of communally owned land, so that they can concentrate their efforts on sideline production like eggs, fruit, chickens or handicrafts or on small industries.

Left-wing "purists" will seize on this as a return to the landlord system, which kept China's peasants in misery and subjugation for centuries. But the group of top policy planners around Mr Deng Xiaoping, the older statesman, say this is ruled out by state supervision and collective ownership of land.

One provincial party chief recently forecast that by 1990 the agricultural work-force will have been split into one third farm labourers, a third labourers in animal husbandry and

other sidelines and a third in industry, commerce and service trades.

Such subdivision is expected to bring much greater prosperity than the previous one-sided emphasis on grain. Of course, grain remains the foundation of Chinese agriculture and the country is expected to remain largely self-sufficient in it, although there are always likely to be imports for special needs.

In contrast, the former model production brigade of Dazhai has admitted that its previous successes, attributed to Mao's doctrine of "bitter toil" and egalitarianism, were a fraud. One reason why Dazhai did so well was the huge amount of nightsoil, deposited by the thousands of visitors who used to go there every week from all parts of China, and used as fertilizer.

Tomorrow: Failures in industry.

Russians fail to subdue Afghan guerrilla chief

From Michael Hamlyn, Peshawar

The leader of the guerrilla fighters who once dominated the Panjshir Valley in Afghanistan, Mr Ahmed Shah Mahsood, has been in direct touch with his headquarters in Peshawar in Pakistan, and has shown as unfounded Soviet claims that he and his band were eliminated in the Russian occupation of the valley.

Last week a messenger arrived at the headquarters of the Jamiat Islami group in the suburb of Farqabad with a short note in Mr Mahsood's own handwriting. It was dated the 19th of Sawan, an Afghan date equivalent to May 9, and briefly introduced the bearer of the note to the organization officials. It added: "I am very busy at present. The courier can give you details of our actions."

The bearer of the note came in fact with a request for funds, and returned immediately to Afghanistan with them. The note had taken 14 days to make the journey from Mr Mahsood's mountain lair.

Diplomatic sources in Pakistan and India circulated rumours last week that the Russians themselves know Mr Mahsood to be alive, and sent 11 experts from Russian to Afghanistan to renew negotiations with him towards a new truce.

Also in Peshawar last week were two Afghan guerrillas, Mr Khan Agha and Mr

Mohammed Raqib, who appear to have victims of poison gas used by the Russians during the Panjshir campaign.

They said they were returning to the Panjshir after being ordered out of the valley during the first attacks by the Russians when they and four companions entered a deserted village called Shuul. Trees and rocks appeared to be covered in a yellow granular powder which they described variously as looking like cornflour or like sawdust.

Border fighting has flared up over the past two months, with each side accusing the other of intrusions and artillery barrages against border villages.

Radio Hanoi has also reported fresh fighting. It said 280 Chinese troops and 11 Vietnamese civilians were killed.

In a statement published in the official press yesterday, the Chinese foreign ministry gave a warning to Hanoi to reconsider its present course or take the consequences.

Ahmed Mahsood: "I am very busy."

Vietnamese troops forced out

Peking (Reuters) — China said yesterday that it had ejected Vietnamese troops from two hilltop positions they had held since the two countries fought a border war in 1979.

The official Chinese news agency said the Vietnamese had been able to threaten dozens of Chinese villages within range of the positions for the past five years.

According to the Chinese, the Vietnamese took the positions, said to be in Chinese territory in southern Yunnan province, in March 1979. The agency reported that the Vietnamese forces were driven out of China on April 28 and 30.

Residents were now clearing mines and barbed wire from rubber plantations, tea gardens and paddy fields which had been unsafe to cultivate because of the threat of Vietnamese shelling.

Border fighting has flared up over the past two months, with each side accusing the other of intrusions and artillery barrages against border villages.

Radio Hanoi has also reported fresh fighting. It said 280 Chinese troops and 11 Vietnamese civilians were killed.

In a statement published in the official press yesterday, the Chinese foreign ministry gave a warning to Hanoi to reconsider its present course or take the consequences.

Unesco tries to counter Western criticism

From Diana Goldes, Paris

A special committee has been set up by the executive board of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to review wide-ranging criticisms of the organization's management and activities, and to recommend reforms.

The committee, which has 13 members, held its first meeting in Paris on Friday. It is to report to the board's next meeting in September. Its members, who include two from Britain, were chosen on the basis of two representatives from each geographic group.

The United States, which has announced that it will withdraw from Unesco at the end of this year unless radical changes are made, is not directly represented, but the committee's

broad mandate, specifically includes an examination of the reasons for US withdrawal as expounded during the board's discussions over the past two weeks.

Britain's criticisms and proposals, as laid out in its letter to Mr Amadou Mbow, Unesco's Secretary-General, in April, will also be examined by the committee. Like the United States, Britain is concerned about allegations of financial mismanagement and "politicization" of programmes. It also wants reform in less controversial areas such as staff management and administration. It has said that it would have to reconsider its membership status there were "significant indications of change" by the end of the year.

Zimbabwe ambush death

From Stephen Taylor, Harare

A sharp upsurge in guerrilla activity in Manicaland has culminated in the murder of a white farmer, bringing to 39 the number of people killed since the onset of anti-government violence in the west Zimbabwe province two years ago.

Mr Ian Birchall, a rancher in his mid-30s, was ambushed by a gang of about eight guerrillas on Thursday south of Marula. The Birchall ranch is within the

curfew area where more than 10,000 troops were deployed in a harsh anti-insurgency operation in February. Mr Birchall apparently saw a distress call on his "agri-alert" radio system linking ranches, homes and vehicles. But when he arrived he was found shot dead.

The killing sent a new wave of fear through Manicaland's white farmers and raised the prospect of an exodus.

Spanish drought is over — but it's not official yet

From Harry Debelius, Madrid

Spain's four-year drought — experts say it is the worst in a century — is ending; but most officials here are reluctant to say so, lest it stop raining.

Rainfall was well below normal in this country from mid-1979 through the latter part of last year, but in the past six months it has reached normal levels in much of the country.

Officials say, however, that it will take some time to raise water levels significantly and to bring Spain's reservoirs, now about 60 per cent full, closer to the optimum average of about 70 per cent.

The disastrous floods last

year in some coastal areas does not mean the drought has ended, even in those areas. In the area around Valencia, where a dam broke in a downpour causing death and havoc, there is still serious water shortage.

Until relatively modern times, periodic long dry spells had drastic consequences for Spain. The year 1866 went down in history as "the year of hunger" and the mostly dry years of the mid-1940s are remembered with bitterness, because they compounded the devastation left by the Spanish civil war.

However, a vast dam construction programme carried out under General Franco, put

Spain in a better position to endure recurring droughts, even taking into account the increased water consumption which accompanied today's higher living standards. Without those dams, according to Señor Isaac Font Tullot, in his new book *Climatology of Spain and Portugal* published by Spain's National Institute of Meteorology in Madrid, it is frightening to think of the situation in which the present drought would have put Spain.

In recent summers, hundreds of villages had to be supplied with water by tank truck; irrigation canals in many places were dry or their use was restricted; more fuel had to be

imported to generate electricity as hydroelectric power production fell; crops, particularly in the west and south, withered. Ranchers had to import foodstuffs to keep livestock alive after pastures dried up.

The consequences can be far reaching. Continuing deforestation, overgrazing and poor cultivation methods combine with drought to produce a growing desertification of much of once arable officials.

Today however, grain crops in the south and west are verdant, and farmers there are euphoric. Winter and spring rains have brought the scorched countryside back to life.

When asked whether the

drought is over? the Minister of Public Works and Urbanism, Señor Julian Campo, is cautious.

"I do not think so," he says. "I think we need more water this year and in the coming years, in order to reach a good situation with regard to water resources."

He explained that legislation was being prepared to regulate the use of subterranean waters, which have been depleted because of increasing and uncontrolled demand. New dams, under construction or being sited this year will increase Spain's reservoir capacity by 24 per cent.

Terror stalks Punjab cities

From Kuldeep Nagar, Jalandhar

Terror has struck Punjab. People, particularly Hindus, feel they are sitting ducks for extremists, and if they have escaped being killed so far it is not because of the security forces but because the Hindunvala men, as they call them, have not yet got them in their sights.

Mr Sadhu Singh Handra, a Sikh editor of Punjab Afta, and Mr Virendra, a Hindu editor of Hindi Vir Pratap, go out of doors as little as possible because of possible attacks. They have armed police guards, of course, but so had Komuch Chander, who was shot in the city in daylight.

Whoever one talks to has one question to ask: what is in Mr Gandhi's mind? Despite all criticisms, most people have their eyes fixed on her. Apart from a small number of Hindus, all are in favour of a settlement with the Akalis, and wonder why she is prolonging Punjab's travail.

A senior official said that without a political solution there would be no end to extremism. Terrorists, he admitted, were becoming the mainstream in the state. But they were not all Hindunvala's followers. "Some others have also joined," he said.

Authorities fear that the extremists may be aiming at communal riots because the targets of their killings have been any Hindus that they can lay their hands on without danger to themselves. The countryside, however, is without communal tension.

There is a war in the cities. Many Hindus are trying to move their business outside Punjab. Many industrialists in Ludhiana also told me that their output was 40 per cent of what it was two years ago.

As I drove from Ludhiana to Jalandhar, a distance of 45 miles, I saw people resting by the roadside in the shade. There were fewer cars but the bazars of the two cities were crowded, although there were few women out. Property prices have dropped by 50 per cent.

Still, it takes a Punjabi to live in Punjab, because despite three or four killings a day the rhythm of life does not look greatly disturbed. Fear is there but that is in the hearts of the people, and they betray it only when they talk about their future or when they make a point of returning home before sunset.

● BOMBAY: The death toll in 10 days of Hindu-Muslim clashes in the south-western state of Maharashtra has risen to 221 with the discovery of six more bodies (Reuters reports).

The war was over on Saturday night in Thane City, on the outskirts of Bombay, where Hindu and Muslim leaders led a peace march through the streets.

SPECTRUM

Quentin Crisp, one-time Naked Civil Servant has moved to New York. Americans may seem rude, he says, but they admire old people

The view from the kidney of Manhattan

My home for the last two years has been in a rooming house on New York's East Third Street, at the edge of what the natives call 'the DMZ Zone'. If I lived any further east I would have to travel to and from all social engagements in an armoured vehicle. My bedsitting room, at the top of the stairs on the third floor, is decorated in a style which befits my station in life: early Low Tech. I have a portable heater, a telephone and a hot-plate - all that I need to survive over what my life has become one long camping trip. I have no radio because my interest in Civil Defence is minimal and what else is radio good for? I have no television set because I don't see why I, of all people, should pay to take unreality seriously.

Visitors to my room often intimate that they find it cramped and suggest that I would be happier elsewhere, whereas I think that to have as much as 120 square feet to the heart - or rather, give me my location, the kidney of Manhattan - is bliss, far beyond anything I dreamt for myself when I was young.

Sometimes these same visitors look out of my one window, which faces another wing of the house, and ask me if I wouldn't prefer a better view. Only unimaginative people need a view, but I don't say so. I like walls, I tell them, there are few things in life more reassuring than a wall, especially a blank one.

The wall I face is not perfect, however. There are two windows facing mine, so I do not escape reminders of other people. Sometimes, at night, any time after eleven, when I am huddling under my only lightbulb, a knock will come at my door or a verbal demand will pass right through it from my neighbour complaining that he cannot get to sleep with my light shining in his eyes.

To ask why he does not get a blind would be to raise the equally embarrassing question as to why I don't get one either. Rather than get embroiled in this riddle (for me the reason is that I don't see the point to investing in a blind, even one of Venetian

quietude, when any day now I expect Life's curtain to fall) I have taken to putting out my light promptly by 11 pm. If I come in later than that I undress in the dark, so as to spare my photosensitive neighbour any aggravation to his optic nerve. Living in proximity with other people requires that we consider their feelings may seem to be, for that very eccentricity may be the essence of their identity. When my neighbour complains and I give way, or he notices that there is no longer any cause for offence, it may have little to do to fact, with the alleged sleep-reducing glow of my woe sixty-watter, which after all has to penetrate two window-panes caked with soot before it impinges upon the retina of his irosomniacal eyes - it may be simply that he needs to exert his will and to savour the small victory of somebody obliging him. If something as little as the flick of a switch is enough to keep him docile then I am perfectly willing to liaise. It could be much worse: I could be living next door to a rock musician of the heavy metallurgical persuasion.

As the butt of mockery and abuse almost from birth I became well acquainted with humility and her twin, irony

I am often asked by people why I am so patient with my enemies. The reason is partly habit and partly strategy. Having been the butt of mockery and abuse almost from birth I became well acquainted with humility and her twin, irony, even before my compulsory miseducation began in earnest. I would have died of exhaustion if I had tried to combat the treatment I received, instead I feigned not to be angry. This is the only method known to me by which one can survive one's emotions and also feign not to have them. It works.

All New Yorkers are familiar with the aural equivalent of Chinese water torture encountered nowadays when



Quentin Crisp: "Who am I to refuse a call? I need every free meal I can get"

telephoning a large store or company. Instead of receiving prompt, efficient and courteous service you find yourself listening to Poochielli's *Dance of the Hours* or some other musical clatter while waiting for someone to answer your call. There is probably a theory worked out by some psychologist (who instead of remaining a good doctor went into market research instead) which states that people will wait longer for service if they are soothed by lullabies into comatose submission - while the company saves on the number of workers it hires to answer your calls. As for the poor, the only buffer they can afford is to unplug their phones - with the obvious disadvantage that when the quiz-master calls offering an all-expenses-paid trip to Bermuda in exchange for an explanation of who Maria Montez was, they won't hear about it. But then the poor always have bad luck it seems.

To me the telephone is a window facing the outside world and I feel obliged to keep it open: who am I to

refuse a call from anyone? Instead of using a buffer to protect me I employ the art of manners so as to be open to every social opportunity (I need every free meal I can get) but not to be imposed upon unbearably by bores, windbags and psychos. One day, I fancy, someone will ring up, saying "I have this friend you may like, coming into town. She used to be in movies. Why don't we all have lunch tomorrow?" And when I show up the next day, the surprise guest will turn out to be Maureen O'Hara. She will smile and I will hear an Aeolian harp playing an Irish air, and our memories will do a little jig. Meanwhile, back on the Lower East Side, one of my most frequent callers, at present, is someone I've never met. She has a young-sounding voice, and introduced herself after *The Naked Civil Servant* was repeated in the New York area on television. She seems timid and shy but is not without perceptiveness. "The thing that struck me the most when watching the film is that you never wanted

anything for yourself." I was delighted that she had noticed something so subtle that even professional critics had not detected it, yet for the rest of her call she had nothing much to say and merely needed someone 'nice' to share her nothingness with.

For six sizzling summer weeks during 1983, when most sensible New Yorkers have departed for breezy beaches or more temperate climes, an intrepid producer in search of miraculous profits or a tax loss (which my spies in the world of high finance tell me is often the same thing - no wonder the economy is shaky) staged a revival of my one-man show, entitled: *How to Make It in the Big Time*. Much to my amazement, hundreds of people

When people say that Americans are rude they usually mean they are nosy, and they are, they long to know everything

showed up each week at the Actor's Playhouse on Seventh Avenue - such is the drawing power of air conditioning. Reuters News Service, in an article about the show, dubbed me 'the powdered Messiah' which like most journalism adds false excitement to the facts. Even with my name in lights and my countenance plastered around New York on posters (now peeling - how fleeting is fame) I remain, the same: Your Humble Servant.

I agreed to be lured out of retirement but only as a stand-in for Gloria Swanson who was permanently indisposed. I viewed the show as my glorious swan song and wanted to call it 'Crisp's Last Stand'. Much of the programme, as in the past, consisted of questions-and-answers; some of the inquiries I received were trivial and begged to be sent up: 'What sign are you'?

'I'm Septuagenarian,' I replied.

In America practically everyone regards himself as middle class and is proud of it, whereas in England to call something 'middle class' is to condemn it. (Having pottery ducks on your walls would stamp you as indisputably lower middle class in England, but in America the harshest comment that would be made about having such ducks on your walls is that you must be into 'fifties kitsch'. Things are dated by time here and to some extent by taste but never by class.)

There is a mad desire to be fashionable in America, to change when things change and always in order to seem young. There is much less desire to seem young in England, but in America youth is not merely a phase through which one passes but a lifelong value. There may be seven ages of man, according to Shakespeare, but in America there is only one that matters - perpetual adolescence. On the other hand, Americans, unlike the English, show little interest in seeming aristocratic or refined, although there

are the occasional jokes about people who came over on the *Mayflower*. DeBret has now produced a book called *The Texan Aristocracy*, but this is a misnomer because it's really about the rich, and while great wealth may create a glassy shield around certain Americans it does not bestow any of the attributes of aristocracy.

When Americans parade their wealth, they do so chiefly in the form of extreme generosity. When I visited Texas, during my lecture tour, found this to be overwhelming. I was practically handed the keys to the cities of Austin and Houston, but not having Marcus charge account, I had no idea what to do with such extravagant gifts. The American habit of generosity includes the desire to make others feel at home and to make everyone feel that they are your equal, though not perhaps in wealth.

Some years ago in Los Angeles I attended an awards ceremony, the star of which was Miss Julie Harris. There was a moment when I asked my companion if Miss Harris had arrived. He stood up and looked about, and then seeing her on the far side of the room, walked over to where she was, evidently to ask her if there was a moment when I might be presented to her. She immediately got up from her table, left everything, and crossed the room in order to present herself to me. This is an instance of the way that the American idea of generosity, hospitality and good manners' work. They endeavour to always make the first move, and they are concerned about creating the impression that it is an honour for them to meet you.

When people say that Americans are rude they usually mean that they are nosy, and they are, they long to know everything about you, in the middle of the street, even in the dead of winter, but this is because they feel they are your friends, so they don't see their curiosity about you as an invasion of privacy.

Although there is a reverence for the young in America, there is no blame laid upon people simply because they are old, an attitude which exists in England, where anyone who is having a jolly life at the age of 60 is treated with derision.

In America, people like Katharine Hepburn, Helen Hayes, Ruth Gordon, to name a few of the actresses who keep on working come hell or arthritis, are regarded practically as heroic figures. In England, the old tend to be pushed aside as dotty relics, but in America, if you can run around Central Park at the age of 86 someone is bound to put you on television - or a cable TV show at least for the deregulated airwaves are an arid waste in constant need of irrigation. Contra Mr Orwell: in America people are grateful that they are worth watching.

Adapted from *Manners from Heaven*, by Quentin Crisp, is published by Hutchinson on June 24, price £6.95

© Quentin Crisp 1984

GLENMORANGIE®

10 YEARS OLD SINGLE HIGHLAND MALT SCOTCH WHISKY



2. ARCHIE MURDOCH arrives at the malting shed shortly after sun-rise. A maltman of 19 years' standing, he can judge the quality of the barley (grown on wind-swept estates in the glens of Ross-shire) by sifting the grain through his hands. Once he has satisfied himself that nature, and the harvesters, have done their job, only then can the day's distilling begin.

Handcrafted by the Sixteen Men of Tain.

Every cliché nestling in its niche

however... Russell Davies

A weekend conference convened in hopes of forming an Amalgamated Union of Cliché Twisters ended in uproar last night. One delegate described the scene as "a shambles of the first water". I was only there as an observer, acting for and on behalf of the United Union of Tautologists and Allied Trades and Suelike Professions. That's all I was there for. That was my only role or purpose in being on the premises. But I was appalled and shocked. It was not like a union meeting, it did not resemble a union meeting in any way, shape or form. It was more like a bear garden with the gloves off. A shambles.

At the centre of the dispute stood the formidable figure of Mr Sid Olivetti, president of the Ancient Brotherhood of Metaphor Mixers, who opened the proceedings. "Yes" agreed a junior official of the same union later, "it was all down to Sid. He put his cards on the table and it had a domino effect." In the course of his speech, Mr Olivetti accused the government of "waving an olive branch in the face of history". Mrs Thatcher, he stated, was "the biggest red rag to which my union, speaking as a bull, has been subjected. Subjected to. But now we intend to start the ball rolling in the direction of a horse of a different colour, this time with teeth." His union was tired, said Mr Olivetti, of playing second fiddle, like some fly on the wall of the Augustan stables. Now was the time to grasp the nettle and catch the Prime Minister with her trousers down.

At this point, Mr Arnold Crossbottom of the Inspired Society of Sports Stylists rose like a salmon to put his ear in. Noting the absence of Simile Forgers' Union leader George Lykeness, he remarked that:

"Hamlet without the prince is par for the course in this case." But in the wake of Mr Lykeness' non-appearance, continued Mr Crossbottom, he intended to take the game to the opposition anyway and say what he'd come to say regardless, in spite of the unavailability of Mr Lykeness, whether anybody liked it or not.

This proposal received suitable support from the Tautologists, but as soon as Mr Crossbottom announced his intention of "flying a kite on behalf of a no-strings policy", he was abruptly called to order, and eventually removed from the debating chamber altogether, still protesting loudly that it was a case of the Chair wagging the dog.

Mr Jack Quink, representing the Simile Forgers, likened Mr Crossbottom's intervention to "a storm in an already overfilled teacup" and requested that a vote of censure be passed on the departed delegate, to repose confidence in whom, he suggested, was like expecting to extract blood from the Blarney Stone. Several bloodstained Irish delegates rose to protest, led by Detrol McCluskey of the Overwriters' Guild, who claimed that his members were "the flower of a sterile profession, standing head and shoulders above the dwarves on the conference committee". The proceedings were briefly adjourned for first aid and tea, during which a Fraternal Sentence from Mr Bernard Levin was formally read.

Conference chairman Joe "Troubled" Waters reopened the session with a call for moderation. He did not, he reminded his audience, wish to

go naked into the conference chamber whistling in the dark, nor could he stand before the Spirit of History carrying a different kettle of fish from the one he'd already put where his mouth was. "If you don't want to burn the midnight oil", he admonished, "stay out of the kitchen". At the same time, he was fully cognisant of the potential knock-on effect of a belt-and-braces option, he added. "The last thing I want is to hear the public shouting a plague on both their trousers".

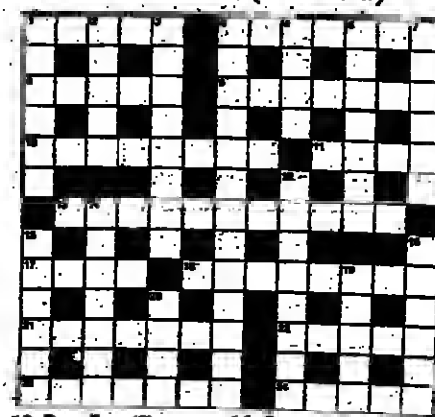
Resuming his attack, Mr Olivetti declared himself "decimated" by Mr Waters' address. He had piled Pelion, Mr Olivetti said, on Ossa. Seldom had Mr Olivetti heard the gamut of cloud-cuckoo-land so remorselessly run. Mr Waters was a walking knee-jerk reaction, continued Mr Olivetti, if allowed to bring home the bacon in the style to which he

had become accustomed, he would surely tip the scales towards making the trade union movement the jewel in the crown on the scrapheap of history. When a fish out of water hogs the limelight, concluded Mr Olivetti with perhaps the shoddest of a twinkle in his eye, it is on the cards that he won't know on which side his bread is buttered on.

When rapturous applause from the floor failed to evoke any response from the platform party, there were prolonged calls for mass resignations; but Mr Waters, seizing the microphone, announced the refusal of all motions to everybody's executive "pending an amelioration of the industrial situation getting better" (loud shouts of "Yes!" from the Tautologists). As the din worsened, it was just possible to hear the chairman reconvene the meeting for Tuesday week at the Hear Exchange. Maccleration, continued Mr Olivetti, field, but the traditional singing of "It's a Funny Game, bacon in the style to which he

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 352)

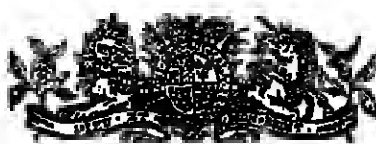
- ACROSS
- 1 Super solution (5)
 - 2 Connecting line strip (7)
 - 3 Ardent male lover (5)
 - 4 Consoling annoyance (7)
 - 5 Silent monk (8)
 - 6 Move rapidly (4)
 - 7 Alluring (11)
 - 8 Tardy (4)
 - 9 Very disagreeable (8)
 - 10 Fugitive search (7)
 - 11 Terror (5)
 - 12 Statistical calendar (7)
 - 13 Rummage (5)
- DOWN
- 1 Grogginess (6)
 - 2 Cuban dance (5)
 - 3 View (8)
 - 4 Quirky (13)
 - 5 Appropriate (4)
 - 6 Black pond bird (7)
 - 7 Sordid (6)
 - 8 Fearless (8)
 - 9 Opposite word (7)
 - 10 Ultimate (5)
 - 11 College graduates (6)
 - 12 Recommended dictionary is the New Collins Concise
 - 13 Overused expression (6)
 - 14 Ultimate (5)
 - 15 Consume in fire (4)



SOLUTION TO SATURDAY'S JUMBO CONCISE

ACROSS: 1 Susceptibility 9 In readiness 15 Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse 16 Bedevil 17 Immature 18 Scurvy 19 Classifier 19 Ooze 20 Halfhearted 21 Analogue 22 No. buyer 23 Nurse 24 Assignment 25 Standard operating procedure 27 Ride shock 28 Reluctant 29 Igniter 30 Non-vote 31 Offensive 32 Unhappily 33 General medical practitioner 34 Adelphi 35 Fiddle 36 Cocks 37 Tally 38 39 E1 Alumin 40 Improbable 41 Espouse 42 Swiss talk 43 Unchecked 44 Assassins 45 All people that can earth do dwell 46 Hypothemata 47 Considered risks

DOWN: 1 Soft brown 2 Sounding board 3 Ethnicity 4 Torchbearer 5 Bleamish 6 Eyeball 7 Blongated 8 Scurvy 9 Classifier 10 Reprehense 11 Ancon 12 Igloo 13 Express regret 14 Shaver 15 21 Summi 16 Anarchist 17 Gag 18 Cuckoo 19 Over rated 20 Summi 21 Dispose 22 All in 23 Geometric 24 Resources 25 Denarii 26 Prayer 27 Operative 28 Grill 29 Needed a flipp 30 Funny business 31 Creep 32 In the saddle 33 Silver cash 34 Pw 35 Finner 36 term 37 Chimnusa 38 Cro 39 Mazon 40 Splander 41 Overalls 42 Fubler 43 Undo 44 45 Great 46 Apple 47 Antix



PARIS DIARY

Frank Johnson

Bourgeoisie, aux barricades

One evening last week, I attended my first riot since taking up residence in Paris. It was only a minor, informal riot. No one was maimed; dress was optional; only the special police wore formal, steel hats. The function was thus similar to a dinner at which only the waiters wear evening dress. But anyone's first Paris riot is always an occasion.

The invitation was extended by several hundred extreme right-wingers taking part in a march. They chanted their intention of, at some unspecified point in the future, inducing President Mitterrand's departure from office, although they phrased it more obscenely. "Join us, join us," they shouted.

The youths had attached themselves to, or were part of, a more bourgeois demonstration against the government's plan to secure greater state control of private, mainly Catholic schools. But such youths were in a minority. The march largely consisted of the well-dressed middle-aged and their children.

There had been early signs of a thirst for conflict. As the march reached the Rue de Rivoli, a delayed motorist had got out of his car and had started punching. On the face of it, that was not unusual. When delayed Parisian motorists get out of their cars, it is usually to make it easier to punch. The difference here was that, instead of punching other motorists, this man launched himself at several thousand marchers. He was easily restrained by the middle-aged, but a score of youths bore down from further back and seemed disappointed that his protest was unidirectional.

Later I emerged at a Metro station called Duroc, in the Boulevard Montparnasse, and found myself positioned exactly between the rebellious youths and a squad of helmeted CRS riot police, with shields and truncheons, who were running towards them.

Safely behind a verbal sidestep

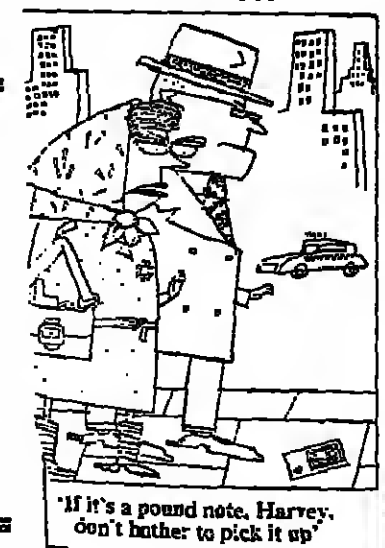
According to the British liberal press down the ages, these police-men are, at functions such as this, in the habit of clubbing mere spectators. It may even be true. So, instead of courting suspicion by running away, I put my hands in my pockets, and assumed an air of incomprehension. A CRS man drew level. "A robbery?" I asked. "No," he replied. "A demonstration." Our idiotic conversation completed, I remained unharmed. Behind me, the waiters were removing the tables and potted palms from the pavement in front of a restaurant with a speed born of centuries of experience of these emergencies.

For the next hour, the youths would gather at a street corner and hoot at the CRS, who would run to that corner while the youths retreated to another. The CRS, because of the informality of the riot, made no physical contact. Eventually, some of the youths moved outside of sight of the CRS, tore down the wood and canvas around a building site, strewn it across the Rue du Départ to form a barricade, and set it alight to a chant which could be translated as "Hot, hot, hot. The spring is gonna be hot!" Three press photographers recorded this operation.

It seemed ideologically unsound for a right-wing mob to interfere with the property rights of a private enterprise building firm. But the youths showed a respect for consumer durables by courteously lifting two small cars out of the way of the barricade. Interestingly, a few of the middle-aged appeared to be assisting the youths. The CRS continued with their policy of non-intervention. Eventually, three fire engines arrived to douse the flames after which the CRS ran down the street, and the youths retreated. After that it was time for all of us who had assisted at the soiree - CRS, incendiaries, photographers and spectators - to call for our "arrangements and go home. A much bigger march on the same theme is planned next month.

Several letters have reached me asking whether, in my item last week mentioning the *Dieu d'Enghien*, he Prince de Broglie, M. Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, Talleyrand, and Napoleon, M. Savary (the Minister of Education), and Savary (the ex-convict of the Duke d'Enghien), I had intended to confuse M. Maurice Schumann with the late Robert Schuman. Easy though it would be to resist that I had so intended, I had not. The item was perhaps complicated enough already. Through a considerable lapse, I attributed to M. Maurice Schumann the achievements, on behalf of the Common Market, of Robert Schuman. I apologize.

BARRY FANTONI



"If it's a pound note, Harvey, don't bother to pick it up."

Last Wednesday a *Times* leader described the Government's position on the Channel Tunnel as clear cut and admirable: "It is not a project which warrants the use of public funds". The *Financial Times* was less emphatic: "neither government nor market should support the project unless it is economic", it said, with the hint that perhaps the British and French governments and the EEC should seriously consider the use, or backing, of public money.

The *Guardian*, wholeheartedly pro-EEC, wrote: "Given the economic and social advantages to this country, Mr. Ridley (Transport Secretary) would be profoundly foolish not to help the capital markets along."

The attitude towards a Channel tunnel, or bridge, varies according to enthusiasm for the EEC. Those who are hostile towards it, or lukewarm, trot out the financial risks.

The latest gambit of those who would like to be thought in favour of the European idea but are actually reserved about it is to say the permanent link would be fine if private enterprise paid for it entirely. That is an improvement on 1883, when a joint committee of both Houses of Parliament rejected the idea on military grounds. They had been alarmed by Field-Marshal Lord Wolseley, who had described to them an imaginary invasion

through the tunnel by 6,000 troops who would rapidly seize Dover and secure a bridgehead for a full-scale onslaught.

The prejudice against being linked with the Continent remains the same. It is the excuses which change. When Tony Crosland was the relevant minister, the Anglo-French scheme, on the edge of fruition, was squashed on the convenient grounds that we could no longer afford it because one of the frequent economic crises which afflict Labour governments required spending cuts.

The French have been willing to cooperate ever since the engineer Mathieu mooted the project to Napoleon in 1800, though that was hardly a propitious time to gain British acceptance of a tunnel. The idea progressed on both sides of the Channel at the prompting of Napoleon III. After Bismarck removed him, the British government became almost active, and tunnel workings were begun. Then Lord Wolseley's intervention put a stop to the enterprise.

A permanent link between Britain and the Continent has nothing to do with cost, whether it is a £3 billion suspension bridge or a £2 billion rail

tunnel. The issue is whether we feel in our hearts that we are genuine Europeans or whether we wish to keep our distance. The cost can always be managed, even if tolls and charges take 100 years to amortize it.

The French are ready to pay half and do not in the least mind giving financial guarantees if private enterprise cannot foot the whole bill. The EEC would also be prepared to pay substantially because of the benefit to Western Europe as a whole.

Spread over the years, the cost would be relatively trivial compared with other public spending, some of which, like Trident - forecast to cost £8.7 billion over the next 15 years - may be unnecessary and certainly will not contribute to our prosperity. The real question is, do we want a permanent link with the Continent? Do we feel safer psychologically if we can get at them, or they at us, only by air and ship? Would it be an unpleasant reestablishment of the umbilical cord broken when the North Sea flooded over the land link 10,000 years ago?

It is our hesitation, possibly subconscious, which makes the French and others in the EEC suspect that we do not genuinely

want to build a united Europe and prefer to be Little Englanders.

How dull and unimaginative, symptomatic of our declining energy and enthusiasms. The Channel link - and I would prefer both road and rail - would be exciting in its novelty from the moment work began. It would create new jobs, cut the cost of our exports and add a new dimension to everyone's life. Popping off to France or a neighbouring country by car for a day or two would become natural and easy instead of an undertaking requiring weeks of preparation.

We would become as used to crossing national borders as the Germans, the French, the Italians, the Belgians and the Dutch. And we would not be forced to pay monstrously high air fares every time we wanted a short trip abroad. Because they can cross frontiers so easily by land, continentalers are less fussed about high inter-European air fares than we are.

A permanent land link with the Continent is a youthful idea full of hope and adventure. And we are becoming so old and arthritic a nation that we are becoming frightened to get out of our beds? The SDP/Liberal Alliance could make some useful mileage on June 14 if it loudly and boldly went nap on a Channel link and damned the bogus financial calculation.

James Campbell on a challenge to Scotland's literary defeatism

The tree that never grew



Both Massie (top left) and Gray have made the absence of politics a central part of recent novels. Bottom, Trocchi, Hind and Kelman, all confronted with problems unknown to writers south of the border

"Things would have been different if we hadn't been Scots," says a character in Allan Massie's new novel, *One Night in Winter*. "It made us in love with defeat." The Scots themselves acknowledge that they are expert at failure; it has become a part of their mythology. Each generation experiences it differently, but to each comes the realization, as painful as it is inevitable, that it is living in a nation which has been in decline for centuries. Equally painful, because it requires an admission of impotence, is the knowledge that without at least a token political apparatus there is no means of arresting the process.

On the other side of the Scots' training in defeat, however, lies their resilience. There is always some kind of revival going on. Five years ago, the biggest one of the century reached its anti-climax when the referendum on devolution failed to gain a large enough majority to breathe life into the proposals for a Scottish Assembly in Edinburgh. Hope for that token self-determination expired.

As a novelist, Allan Massie would have had particular reason to lament that latest defeat. The absence of real political activity and all its consequences means that novelists lack the complex social background against which to set their stories which writers in other nations take for granted. This partly explains why one of the Scottish writer's favourite subjects is childhood - the one truly apolitical part of a person's life - and also makes some sense of the misty Scottish romanticism which exists to obscure a reality which is often sordid.

Another revival went the same way recently - a Scottish Arts Council-sponsored scheme to create a paperback fiction list and keep it in print. The lack of such a list, indeed of any mass-market paperback publisher in Scotland or an English one willing to give Scottish fiction proper attention, means that the number of Scottish novels in circulation at any given time is very low. This in turn means not only that authors are deprived of adequate reward for their efforts, but the discussion of their work among critics and general readers alike is hindered.

Unfortunately, at the end of last year the paperback fiction scheme went roughly the same way as the assembly, most people seemed to consider it a good thing but not enough voted for it (this time in the Scottish Arts Council's headquarters in Edinburgh).

Some novelists surmount these problems nevertheless. Both Alasdair Gray's *1982*, *Janine* and the new Massie novel are bold enough to make the absence of politics a central part of their substance. Jock MacLeish, hero of Gray's book, fleetingly digresses into politics in between pornography, fantasies, Massie, for his part, has written about politics before. Three years ago he produced a novel about a political murder; not surprisingly, however, he had to leave Scotland (for Rome) to find it. His new novel

is an artfully fragmented narrative built around the death of a leading SNP figure - and, correlatively, the decay of his Scottish narrator.

These attempts represent something of a departure in modern Scottish fiction, and suggest that even if the events leading up to 1979 cannot offer the real political backdrop which novelists need, they can at least be used as its emblem.

New novels by Alasdair Gray and Allan Massie should have little difficulty in finding their way into paper covers - not made from Scottish paper - and perhaps their success will stimulate publishers' interest in other work.

Some novels do survive, and there was cause to reconsider two very good ones recently. *The Dear Green Place* by Archie Hind was the only serious contender for the title of "the great Glasgow novel" before the founding (any other word is inadequate) of *Lanark* by Alasdair Gray. It was published in 1966 but had long been out of print until Polygon Books of Edinburgh reissued it in paperback on April 12.

Cain's Book (1960), a novel set partly in Glasgow and partly in New York, is the major work of Alexander Trocchi, who died in London three days later. They are very different books: Trocchi owes much to European modernism, Hind to nineteenth-century realism; but they have in common at least one factor which may reveal something about the effect of Scotland's impotence on its writers, and therefore, finally, on its people as a whole.

The Dear Green Place portrays the life of a working-class family at whose centre is an aspiring writer, Mat Craig. He works first in an office, then in a slaughterhouse, then not at all, while struggling to bring his novel into being. Hind's is very much a "first novel" type of novel, autobiographical in tone, gauche and verbose in places, but forged out of tremendous energy and imagination. It is a fitting tribute to the city of its creation - a compliment which, it must be said, cuts both ways. For at its close, having failed to write his novel (which, one suspects, would have strongly resembled *The Dear Green Place*), Mat stands on a bridge over the River Clyde, reflecting on the city's frustrated potential and how he, as a failed writer, has turned himself into a kind of living metaphor for it. In his head the jungle that accompanies Glasgow's coat-of-arms:

This is the tree that never grew.
This is the bird that never flew.
This is the fish that never swam.
This is the bell that never rang.

Cain's Book, written six years earlier, is plainly visible in parts of *The Dear Green Place*.

It is a work of greater technical daring and sophistication, but like the later novel it too centres round the tree that never grew, focusing on a Glasgow man struggling to write a book which in this case is actually called *Cain's Book*. Joe Neelch's case is complicated by other factors, including drug addiction, but he shares the sense of

deprivation which impedes Hind's hero: "the background against which a novelist might set his scene, the aberrant attempts of human beings and societies to respond to circumstances of violence, activity, intellectual and imaginative ardour, political daring. All that was somehow missing from Scottish life. In lieu of (it) there was only a null blot, a cessation of life, a dull absence."

Trocchi fled; Hind found a way of employing that dull absence as his actual subject matter. But it says a lot about the Scottish predicament that two of the most eloquent voices of recent times should have told their stories around the problem of finding a story to tell.

However, the difficulty is greater still, for it begins not with the story but with the voice. The southern English writer's voice is formed in Shakespeare, the King James Bible, all the literary and philosophical movements which were products of a civilization assured of its capacity and standing among comparable civilizations.

The Scottish writer cannot share this assurance. While he speaks in one dialect, for example, he may feel it is "correct" to write in another; his literature (and his history) is written in three different languages: English, Scots and Gaelic - not all of which he is likely to understand.

Moreover, the dialects of industrial cities such as produced Trocchi, Hind and Gray, are limited in range, being the tool of people whose immediate concerns are necessarily basic.

Some writers, like James Kelman, author of *The Busconductor Hines*, have turned the linguistic dilemma to their advantage, and in different ways both Massie and Gray address the subject in their latest novels. All are aware of what significance these conundrums have for them at the deepest level.

Meanwhile, resurrections continue to push up through the bard earth. During a week in May, Scottish writers congregated in Glasgow to celebrate what the publicity for the Strathclyde Writers' Festival called "Glasgow's revitalised awareness of itself".

Which begs the question: If Archie Hind were revising *The Dear Green Place* to suit the temper of a "revitalised" Glasgow, would he empower his hero to complete his novel? - to let the tree grow and the fish swim and the bell ring?

On doubt. "I've seen the inexorable force history exerts on the living," says a character in *One Night in Winter*; it was the refusal to face that force which created the cult of defeatism and the corresponding romantic cult of all things tartan. It is for novelists now to tell the story as it really is.

James Campbell is the author of *Invisible Country: A Journey through Scotland* (Weidenfeld & Nicolson). *One Night in Winter*, by Allan Massie, is published on June 7 by Bodley Head (£7.95). *1982, Janine*, by Alasdair Gray, is published by Jonathan Cape (£8.95), and *The Dear Green Place*, by Archie Hind, by Polygon (£4.95).

Closing the gates on the stately gimmick

For the owners of Britain's historic country houses the last two years have been difficult ones. Falling numbers of visitors, mainly a result of economic recession, induced fears that public interest and support were on the wane, that the pleasures of roaming through state rooms, long galleries and formal gardens were becoming less appreciated.

This year the warm dry weeks of early spring, and an uncharacteristically early Easter, brought capacity crowds and has done much to restore morale.

For Commander Michael Saunders Watson, president of the Historic Houses Association, the 2,000 or so people who turned up on the bank holiday Monday at his home, Rockingham Castle, on the outskirts of Corby, Northamptonshire, were almost too much of a good thing. "It was really rather dreadful," he recalls, "and in the end we felt we had to give some people their money back."

Useful though they may be as a source of revenue, however, paying visitors cannot alone meet the costs of maintaining stately homes in the splendour in which they expect to find them. Commander Watson, having been forced to cut short his naval career when he inherited

Rockingham from his uncle, has since turned himself into a formidable tax expert, ready and able to confront the Inland Revenue on all the intricacies and inequities of capital transfer tax, relief for maintenance funds and exemption from VAT.

It is largely because of this and his fellow owners' persistent lobbying that they now enjoy a range of tax privileges which have enabled them to continue to occupy their ancestral homes. To some people that may seem inequitable, but it is almost certainly cheaper than the alternative of "nationalization".

For those with the space and acumen, such as the Duke of Bedford and Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, the real money has been made from funfairs, museums, safari parks and pop festivals. Now that particular bubble has burst. As Lord Montagu puts it: "There is a safari park within 30 miles of almost everyone in the country. The costs are horrifying, just for food alone, and that sort of thing is a bit passe anyway."

The established tourist complexes like Beaulieu, Woburn Abbey, Longleat and the phenomenally successful Alton Towers in Staffordshire, which last year attracted more

than a million visitors, will doubtless continue to thrive. But the disastrous experience of Lord Brownlow, who tried to do the same with Belton House and has since handed it over to the National Trust, has provided a salutary warning.

Spectacular houses with large grounds and estates, which lend themselves to commercial exploitation, are in any case the exception. Most of the association's 1,200 members live in places which will never lure people in large numbers, and fewer than a third of them think it worthwhile opening regularly.

Those that do so find that income from tourists seldom covers costs. There are some tax advantages, and public grants for repairs and maintenance are usually conditional upon public access, against which have to be set the often exhausting work and disruption of family life.

Michael Watson is emphatically not opposed to commercialization, for those who can make a go of it. He would like to see more sponsorship with firms "adopting" particular houses.

But he insists that the main task of the association is to ensure that historic houses continue to be

occupied by their owners and not turned into museums. The more the public have access, the greater will be the degree of public support and sympathy.

"The important thing is to keep overheads down and to do things on a modest scale," he says. "And people must be made to feel welcome. The days when their jaws dropped at the very idea of being allowed through the gates, are long gone."

Visitors are far more discerning and knowledgeable than they were 20 years ago. Often they come to see some specific thing, and of course there is a tremendous interest nowadays in gardens. We get a lot of children and young people particularly on holiday weekends, and we've set up a heritage education trust to tell them more about the history of what they're seeing.

"I'm sure that this is going to be our future. Not grafting on all sorts of extra entertainments which have no connexion and are sometimes quite inappropriate, but showing houses and gardens in their historic setting."

John Young

Tomorrow: National Trust houses

Ferdinand Mount

Why Reagan still rides tall

When will they see through Reagan? Such is the puzzled, exasperated, if still often unvoiced response of most European observers to events in America. By "observers" I mean, of course, serious, important people like you and me - politicians, diplomats, military strategists, journalists, readers of *The Times*.

"Surely," we mutter, "the Americans must understand that his economic policy is childishly shortsighted. Can't he see that his foreign policy is little more than a sequence of gestures which are usually futile, sometimes illegal and sometimes both? Don't they mind that his treatment of the western alliance is so clumsy and thoughtless? Alas for our sensibilities, and hard cheese to our logic, apparently they can't and they don't. The US public seems beautifully unconcerned by the largest budget deficit in human history; it appears untroubled by the ludicrous sight of the world's last battleship firing aimlessly into a Levantine hillsides or by the nonchalant scattering of American mines across Nicaraguan waters. They do not, in short, give a toss."

Perhaps they may come to give a toss when Mr Reagan gets his comeuppance, when inflation begins to climb and the dollar begins to sink, when his Central American policy falls apart. But then, perhaps even if these things happen, they will not happen until after the election in November.

Until they do, European observers will, as usual, console themselves with various theories about what is happening. We shall be told that there is a "new isolationism" sweeping the US, or that it is now a "Pacific-oriented nation" or alternatively that "America has rediscovered the Americas".

We concoct these theories, partly to give our self-esteem a reason for being treated so cavalierly, but partly because we are hooked on a vision of America as a highly volatile, innovative society in which something is Always Happening - as the place where the action is. This vision is especially congenial to British journalists who are treated with so much more respect in Washington than at home.

I think it is really much more helpful to start from the opposite assumption: that little or nothing ever "happens" in America in that sense, and that the action is usually somewhere else.

You only have to travel a few hundred yards from the White House press room to realize that America is an immensely conservative, not to say comatose place. In the cities, the men wear three-piece suits; in the country, old men still sit in rocking-chairs on verandahs; the newspapers still look like they did in *The Front Page*; the politicians and judges argue about the interpretation of a constitution which is now very nearly two centuries old (in Britain, two decades is long enough for a tradition to crystallize); the modern obsession with ideology is confined

to a few freaks; indeed, on the whole, Americans tend to vote rather sparingly; and in political life, an unbuttoned, eighteenth-century attitude towards patronage and bribery still prevails; at any one time, up to a quarter of the Congress may be in trouble with the police on a variety of financial and sexual peccadilloes. In Britain, one visit to a strip club and you hit the headlines.

This large, sloppy, slow society, blessed with cheap fuel, cheap land and cheap food, is also the most impressive producer of wealth on earth. There is no contradiction between political torpor and economic energy; think of the blessed days of Sir Robert Walpole; or the



Kissinger and Haig: grand strategies out of time with national thinking

advice Guizot gave to the French people in the dog days of Louis-Philippe: "Enrichissez-vous!" But you must not expect such a nation to pursue with any zest or tenacity a grand strategy at home or abroad; that is where Dr Henry Kissinger and General Alexander Haig came unstuck, and the same goes for Mr Marty Feldstein, the President's departing economic adviser. The policy of such a regime will be mostly a matter of gesture and rhetoric, good-humoured, short-lived, irresponsible, unless driven hard by inescapable realities.

All this may be said for those observers in Europe who have other things to think about than how to upstage the California Democratic primary. But not so sad for the millions who flee Europe in the first place, partly in order to get away from politics. Part of the blessedness, the "exceptionalism" of America is its torpor; and President Reagan is in no danger of forgetting it.

For Mr Reagan is a specialist in torpor. His days on the ranch, far from wasting political credit, accumulate sympathy by radiating personal well-being and national contentment. His critics are as foolish as the critics who berated Eisenhower for spending too much time on the golf course. When trouble looms all that people wish to know is that it has been dealt with, swiftly, unobtrusively and, if need be, ruthlessly. They do not want their president to bang on about it. Mr Reagan may be less wise than Ike, but he is just as adept at skipping out of trouble without a mark on him.

A cowboy? Why not? The Europeans think of a man careering around with six-shooters blazing. Americans see a man sitting tall and easy in the saddle, half asleep, watching cattle munching.

Anne Sofer

Slackening off the stockbroker belt

Food. I have come to the conclusion that we - the we, that is, that constitutes late twentieth century western society - have become obsessed with it. A future historian of social psychology may be able to comment intelligently on how it comes about that this uniquely well-fed population spends so much not just of its money, but also of its time and imagination, on the whole business of eating.

Maybe the intelligent comment would go something like this. "In the decades after the Second World War, the people of the West enjoyed for the first time a large surplus in food production, and embarked for several generations on a collective binge. Obesity became a serious problem, and consequently more than half of all adults at any one time were attempting to lose weight. This rapid alternation of licensed greed and self-imposed frustration made food into a continuing preoccupation."

Dieting is big business, almost as big as gastronomy. The two compete with, and depend on, each other. Without the constant failure of dieting under the onslaught of gastronomy, there would be no market for yet another fail-safe diet. Without the hunger brought about by periodic dieting, the temptations of gastronomy would pall.

Contemporary fiction is full of food. The novel I am reading at the moment, *The Sea, The Sea* by Iris Murdoch, has as its hero and narrator a retired theatrical celebrity with a most engaging philosophy on the subject: "How fortunate we are to be food-consuming animals. Every meal should be a treat and one ought to bless every day which brings with it a good digestion and the precious gift of hunger."

But he abjures haute cuisine and ostentatious dinner-party cooking ("What is more delicious than fresh hot buttered toast, with or without the addition of bloater paste? ... And well-made potatoes with brown sugar and cream is a dish fit for a king"), and cooks instead, with what he calls an intelligent hedonism, cheap, quickly prepared snacks in an enormous variety. Every few pages there is another mouth-watering example - except for a few long stretches (during which the reader gets very hungry) where the writer's emotional turmoil is such that he loses his appetite.

But the best fusion of the delights of the gratification of hunger and philosophy comes from C. S. Lewis. In his children's books about the mythical country of Narnia, the struggle between good and evil

breaks off at regular intervals for the most delightful meals - a stew of wood-pigeons cooked with a special Narnian herb, trout fresh from a magic stream, hot boiled ham and gooseberries, redcurrants and cream - which he somehow manages to infuse with a sort of wholesome holiness.

But, devout Christian as he was, what would he have thought of the experience that originally provoked this article? On a walk over the Downs one recent Sunday afternoon I took it into a small, carefully restored twelfth century church, full of medieval brasses and ancient memorials. On the way out, my eye was caught by a striking and colourful poster which quite put to shame the other usual notices about parish council meetings and flower-arrangement rotas.

It looked rather like an advertisement for Portugal. Beside a delicate wine glass, brimful with rose wine, dewily chilled and with a Mediterranean sunlit filtering through it, was a round, fresh, crusty loaf, with one slice temptingly cut. It was captioned:

Jesus of Nazareth
Requests the honor of your presence

To be given in his honor.
And underneath were the times of Holy Communion.

The spelling gives away the transatlantic origin of this extraordinary invitation but clearly somebody connected with the church thought it would appeal and attract more regular communicants. It looked the sort of village (sleek fat parson, and expensively converted barns) where in flagstoned kitchens fridges full of pate and mayonnaise and taramasalata stand next to picnic dressers holding copies of *The F. F. F. Diet*, *The 3D Diet* and *Shummers Cook-Book*. (Yes, I am reading off the titles on my own kitchen shelf and thinking ruefully of the contents of my own fridge, though I do not own a converted Sussex barn.)

Would such an appeal work? And even if it did work there, I could not help wondering how it would be received by the congregations of, say, a worker priest in Nicaragua or a missionary in Ethiopia. Where hunger is real might not such a message sicken and infuriate?

But perhaps it is merely a matter of the church speaking to each group in its own language: the way to the absent society's soul may after all be through its stomach.

The author is SDP member of the GLC/ILEA for St Pancras North.



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

SEND FOR LORD ROTHSCHILD

The modern system of British Cabinet Government was designed by Lloyd George and Sir Maurice Hankey at the height of the First World War. In nearly seventy years the size of its supporting apparatus, the Cabinet Office and its network of Cabinet committees, has waxed and waned. But the Cabinet machine over which Mrs Thatcher presides is, in its essentials, a 1916 model. Under the pressures of 1980s government, the metal is spalling and the superstructure buckling. Lord Huot of Tanworth, the fourth man to hold the post of Cabinet Secretary in line of succession from Hankey, said as much last year. Last week, his former colleague, Lord Rothschild, first head of the Think Tank, the Central Policy Review Staff, said the system "placed intolerable burdens on ministers. They could not cope. For him the prime task of a would-be reformer in Whitehall should be to do something about it."

Lord Rothschild's remedy is to attack the problem from two directions. First, ministers

should be more discriminating in their use of time. There should be more thinking and less naming of ships. Secondly, they need an early warning system to give them a chance of coping with potential disasters. He had a go at constructing one while working for Mr Heath in the early 1970s. Whitehall was nervous the stuff might leak and cause a fuss. Lord Rothschild is convinced it could be built and operated in a secure fashion.

The model, in fact, already exists. It is housed in the Cabinet Office a few floors above the suite once occupied by Lord Rothschild. It is called the Joint Intelligence Organisation. It does for foreign and defence policy what Lord Rothschild wants his brainchild to do for economic and domestic policy. Each week its current intelligence groups report to the Joint Intelligence Committee. The JIC prepares a "Red Book" of summaries which ministers receive on Thursdays.

The embryo of a domestic early warning system is already there. The JIC's economic

assessments sub-committee given a new lease of life recently on the initiative of Sir Peter Middleton, Permanent Secretary to the Treasury, regularly provides material that could easily be blended into a JIC for the home front. Similarly, the Cabinet Office's Civil Contingencies Unit, which advises ministers on the handling of industrial disputes that hit essential supplies and services, has decades of accumulated experience to offer to a new home intelligence organization. Furthermore, in the past decade, the Cabinet Office's anti-terrorist capability has acquired much hard-won know-how.

Money and manpower devoted to a small, home-oriented early warning machine would be resources well allocated. It could give the Cabinet a better chance of becoming the master rather than the prisoner of events. Lord Rothschild is sure that in combination with Sir Robert Armstrong, Secretary of the Cabinet, he could build one for Mrs Thatcher. He should be taken at his word.

TREATING WITH GUERRILLAS

As President Duarte assumes office in El Salvador the first pronouncements have come from the FMLM about the possibilities and the impossibilities of "dialogue", ranging shots in a new phase of that war. Today in Colombia is the date announced for the beginning of a cessation of operations by the FARC, the country's largest and oldest guerrilla group, a ceasefire that the government of President Belisario Betancur hopes will be joined by other groups and will lead to a lasting peace.

Peace-making is an arduous process. The technical problems, though manageable if there is a genuine desire for peace on both sides, are still formidable. Amnesties have to be constructed with due juridical care, and those who accept them have to receive protection and rehabilitation. This is complicated and expensive, and times are exceptionally hard. Guerrillas will have made crimes, and must be protected from them; those who accept an amnesty can lose friends, and will need to be protected against them as well. They must readapt to a different life of peace, which may be a distant memory (the leader of the FARC has been a guerrilla for thirty-three years) or in the case of the young not even that.

The political problems faced by the negotiating government demand great political skill. It is necessary to maintain military pressure — "Rifle in one hand, and olive branch in the other" — while imposing restraints and making overtures that will not be

popular with all army officers. Morale suffers and momentum is lost. There is rarely such a thing as a militarily neutral truce, and the soldiers will be well aware of the potential advantage to the guerrillas to rest and regroup, in coming up for air. Guerrilla proponents of "a long struggle" will be quite happy to accept temporary respites, to feign divisions among themselves, to explore the propaganda possibilities of negotiation.

President Betancur has therefore had to tread a narrow line. His search for an amnesty is worth the effort. There are groups prepared to accept it in the spirit in which it has been offered, and even partial success justifies the attempt. But he has to avoid the risks of excessive generosity. There are certain concessions — go-go areas, the existence of permanent armed bands — that he can no more make than can the British government in Ulster. Justice and force have to be a monopoly in the state. He can recognize that violence and armed struggle in Colombia has deep and complex causes, but he cannot recognize that they are legitimate.

The distinction may appear slight here, but it is of fundamental importance in Colombia. Peace is not to be bought at any price, nor can many of the political demands of those in arms be conceded as part of an amnesty. The guerrillas can only be offered the chance to carry on their struggle by other means.

A VERY MOVABLE FEAST

Every four years or so in modern times, give or take a Leap, we seem to plunge aggressively into print with complaints about the problems of Bank and summer holiday timings, and, occasionally, and plaintively, with a solution.

One year we pressed to move Whitson away from the "turmoil of school examinations," or vice versa; another we begged to separate the August Monday from the "ordinary" August fortnight; then we sang the delights of late September to encourage a thinning out of the summer crowds by attracting people towards a break that would soothe the "long haul through the autumn greyness to Christmas"; once we discovered empty June, and tried to sell it as a "full holiday" month; in desperation, faced with yet another season of the "August holiday explosion" on train, road and beach, we came up with the delights of an alternative holiday in your own home, getting the "feel of your suburb."

Eventually, there was relief (for our readers too perhaps) when we noted in 1965 that as foreign ports (eg the Costa Brava) became more accessible, there were fewer people cluttering up our own doorstep. It was a "healthy sign of social progress" if the pressure of numbers which

had despoiled our downs, coves and moors in the high summer had shifted to other parts of the Continent, to do the same thing there. But we soon realised that this was actually an unpatriotic wobble; deserting one's own unexplored "marvellously contrasted island" was frowned on. Our attention shifted to a regular co-ordination of the role and timing of the Bank holiday, and then Mr Heath's late August date fixing really put the cat among the calendar pigeons.

The birds have been coming home to roost, braving the cat, since that decision, coupled with the developing inclination to take a clump of national holiday between Christmas and the New Year, a sort of winter wakes week. Finally, we got, in 1978, arguably the first politically instead of religiously (or agriculturally) motivated holiday in May Day. Other have taken on our aggressive, or plaintive, role, about that date. They wish to see the celebration, "the most gloomy spot on the vacation calendar," moved to another date, like St George's Day, or the Queen's official birthday, or even the preferred current date of the English Tourist Board, which is sometime in June. Or they would like September. (We have been there before.) Or almost any time other than May.

The national disorientation to do anything conveniently well-ordered is of a par with the disorientation to show solidarity with the world's workers by taking to the streets on May Day. Our calendar has already been separated, like our religion, from the political mainstream of the world.

On this newspaper, we are still very much in favour, up to a point, of well ordered holidays for all, leisure, elbow room on the beaches, saints' days observances, a fair day off for a fair day's work, the Costa Brava, peace during school examinations, patriotism, safety on the roads, peace in the suburbs, tranquility on the pretty moors, a happy June and a bright autumn. We acknowledge that not all of these come together. Until it can be so ordered that May Day happens to fall on the first day of the year when there is enough sun for us all to bathe warmly in the sea, showing solidarity of spirit but not of body, we will settle for the movable, which is the status quo. In any case today, we shall be celebrating what is almost a saint's day; it is the birthday of William Pitt (Junior). To the memory of that fiscal miracle worker, we should all be calling, Mayday...

Voting abroad

From Mr Brian McCuskey
Sir, Your article, "Britons abroad miss out on electoral Community spirit" (May 17) again drew attention to the anomaly that British citizens living in other member states of the Community will be unable to vote in the forthcoming European Parliament elections. The British Government recently announced plans to enfranchise British citizens abroad for national and European elections in the

future, but stated that the right to vote will lapse after seven years' absence from the United Kingdom. The Government argues that British citizens who have been away for more than seven years have necessarily cut their ties with the United Kingdom. Even if this doubtful assertion were to be accepted for national elections, it is not clear how it can apply to British citizens living in other member states of the European Community and wishing to vote for the European Parliament.

It will be a scandal if those of us who serve British interests on a permanent basis on the Continent of Europe continue to be the only Europeans disfranchised even after the passing of the planned legislation.

Yours sincerely,
BRIAN MCCUSKEY, Chairman, Association for the Rights of Britons Abroad - Luxembourg,
13 Rue Guillaume Capus,
1314 Luxembourg.
May 18.

Time to end the PNL militancy

From Lord Annan

Sir, The letter from members of the court of governors (May 25) could not better illustrate the difficulties in which the Polytechnic of North London finds itself. They argue that Mr Harrington's presence has introduced "fear into the classroom" and that the militant students are "frightened young people worried by what could happen to any whose names and addresses were made public in court". The presence of one racist student has polluted the polytechnic, shattering the confidence of the students. Fear stalks through the corridors and learning withers.

Who among your readers, do they think, will be taken in by such rubbish? The militant students are not "frightened young people" and press photographs of their faces show that fear is certainly not the emotion that grips them. When no other cause is to hand racism is the issue which the militants at PNL always resort to prolonging the tradition of disruption there. It was the charge, flung at Dr Terence Miller in 1973 when, as director, he was knocked down by militants, the court of governors disrupted on six occasions and those who supported him were insulted and intimidated.

Is it likely that public confidence in PNL will be restored when one of the signatories of the present governors' letter gave open support then to Terry Povey and his Hill, the students who organised the disruption of the court of governors itself and opposed the drawing up of a code of conduct? Now, as then, the governors refuse to implement the code of conduct.

The policies of the National Front are degrading and despicable. So are the policies advocated by the Militant Tendency. But academic institutions of any standing have for long accommodated the minority of students who hold extreme views; and after three years of education by their contemporaries as well as in lecture and tutorial, such students often change their views. Apparently no such opportunity to grow up is to be given to Mr Harrington. Could anything be more likely to confirm him in his policies than the governors' proposal that he be given private tuition with the result that the militant students would be able to boast that once again they had been successful?

Some commentators have considered it fairly absurd for Sir Keith Joseph to have co-opted himself about the state of the sociology department at PNL. Did it not remind one of Winston Churchill appointing a Home Secretary, at the Sidney Street siege?

On the contrary, Sir Keith has good cause to be irritated because the governance of PNL has been a scandal for over a decade. The secretary of state is powerless to change the membership of the court of governors. All the more reason, therefore, why institutions such as ILFA should call their representatives on the court to account and, if necessary, change them.
Yours faithfully,
NOEL ANNAN,
House of Lords.
May 26.

Keeping quiet

From Professor R. J. Berry

Sir, It is a relief that British Rail's market research "shows that a lot of passengers don't want video" (Report, May 15). What about the opposite: have silent compartments ever been considered?

One of the tremendous benefits of trains is the opportunity to read, write, or simply think without visitors or phone calls, and this opportunity can be ruined by other people talking (or worse, playing transistors, even with earphones, which usually seem to leak).

Rail productivity (of passengers) could be increased simply and cheaply by the introduction of silent compartments with, I assume, no union opposition.

Yours etc.

R. J. BERRY,

Queensland,

Sackville Close,

Sevenoaks, Kent.

May 17.

Missing wheels

From Mrs G. Learner

Sir, My reaction on reading Mr Fry's letter (May 22) was to congratulate the Liverpool International Garden Festival on their provision of wheelchairs for casual visitors.

During the past 18 years I have accompanied my paraplegic husband and his wheelchair to a variety of public buildings and events and have never encountered more than three wheelchairs provided for casual use at such places.

The vast majority of wheelchair users bring their own chairs with them since they cannot do without them. Liverpool, with their "special planning ensuring easy access to all areas for disabled visitors", would appear to be top of the league.

Yours faithfully,

GWYNETH LEARNER,

11 Prince's Gardens, SW7,

May 22.

Out of touch

From the Reverend Charles A. Roach

Sir, Your correspondent, Mr Ian Callow (May 22) is out of touch with the fundamentals of good running. At Cambridge, over 30 years ago, we learned that for good, smooth running over long distances, one should hold one's head slightly down, and leaning forward, thus assisting the movement.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
CHARLES A. ROACH,
Trebard,
Green Lane West,
Marazion,
Cornwall.
May 22.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Hard realities in the arms business

From the Director General of the Defence Manufacturers Association

Sir, We are pleased to see (May 18) that the working party commissioned by the Bishop of Portsmouth and others to consider ethical issues in the manufacture and sales of armaments appreciates that, in the world in which we live, there is unfortunately a need to manufacture conventional weapons and other equipment to be used by our Armed Forces as a deterrent.

The working party also agrees that it is not immoral or unethical to supply other (friendly) nations, which lack their own manufacturing capability, with weapons and equipment, should they freely request them.

However, the working party has drawn attention to two areas which it considers to be of concern. Namely, that financial profit has become a dominant fact in overseas sales and that this can cause impoverishment in developing nations.

We would like to point out that as the British security forces are relatively small in size they do not provide a market of sufficient size to support the British defence industry, who must sell overseas to those of our friends and allies who need the equipment if they are also to be able to support the British security forces. As with any other industry, sales must be made at a reasonable profit, invariably against strong competition, in order to enable the industry to continue to exist.

No sale of armaments takes place unless there is a licence granted by government (not just by the MoD). In this way there is a safeguard to ensure that no impoverished nation, or indeed any other nation, is sold British armaments if it is against UK Government policy.

The bishop and his associates propose that MoD-sponsored exhibitions should be discontinued because this is "hard selling". If he accepts that supplying equipment is acceptable in the first place — as he does — then he must allow that some activity has to take place which allows the potential supplier to meet the potential customer. Exhibitions are an ideal meeting place and, as my friend, the industry will confirm, "hard selling" has no place at exhibitions.

There does, of course, come a point in most negotiations when the product or service must be successfully sold against the claims of one or more competitors. But this is not

a situation which is likely to occur at exhibitions. It is a part of the — usually protracted — negotiation phase which takes place before any export contract is placed.

It is unfortunate that we live in a world where armaments are still required to preserve the peace. Under the circumstances we believe that the British defence industry, working within the export controls laid down by the British Government, conducts its business in a completely responsible manner and without fears of the committee are unfounded.

Yours faithfully,
R. H. PURVIS, Director General,
The Defence Manufacturers Association,
136 High Street,
Guildford,
Surrey,
May 23.

From Mr D. L. Giles

Sir, Although one must agree with some of the Hampshire bishops' strictures (May 18) concerning the unrestrained export of conventional weapons of war, their logic is at fault in one vital area.

Whatever God may or may not require, this Government is committed to "privatization" of our warship building yards. There is little possibility of them being attractive to private investors unless they are either able to increase their turnover, profitability and competitive performance by selling to foreign navies (as they have conspicuously failed to do for the past twelve years); or unless the Royal Navy pays more and more for an ever smaller number of ships (warship costs rising today at about three times the increase in the money available in real terms); or unless there is a massive increase in the Defence funds available for the purchase of warships for the Royal Navy.

There is a fourth alternative: for the Royal Navy to buy its ships abroad. However, this might mean the vendor nation (interfering with the requirements of GATT, as outlined by the bishops) and this, in turn, might mean the end of the Royal Navy as a viable defensive maritime force.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID GILES,
Thornycroft, Giles and Associates Ltd,
24 Seymour Road, SW18,
May 18.

Teachers' pay claim

From Mr R. L. Fanthorpe

Sir, May 1 has permitted a brief comment, both on your page 13 editorial, "Teachers' tantrums" (May 21) and on the excellent letter on the same page from Mr R. J. Brind.

There are many points in your editorial which must command the agreement of any fair-minded reader, e.g., "Teaching has never attracted a titanic by high rates of pay... Job satisfaction is a principal motive for choosing teaching... Some teachers are certainly not well remunerated for the effort they put into their work..."

But can it seriously be asserted that attempts to compare teachers' pay with that of other professions are "folly"? Can it be seriously maintained that there is no such thing as a "just wage"?

Simply because specimens are rare, we have no right to argue that a species doesn't exist. Because the aspect of Everest, or swimming the Channel, is not easy to carry out does not mean that it is "folly" to attempt such enterprises. Very often the most daunting and difficult tasks are the ones whose completion brings most satisfaction.

By arguing that comparing the pay of a miner, a teacher, a doctor and a physiotherapist is inconsistent with a free society, are you arguing that it is *more* acceptable to allow the groups with the most muscle to extort more pay than those without rouse in any discernible quality?

Or are you arguing that scarcity value of a rare skill or talent confers the right to high remuneration on the basis of supply and demand? Neither industrial muscle nor supply and demand seems to have much to commend it in terms of moral value.

However difficult and unpleasant the work may be, to reach the conclusion, the inevitability of the conclusion remains even Houghton ten years ago did not really raise teachers' pay to a just or comparable level — and we are now well over 30 per cent down on Houghton.

I do agree, absolutely, with your editorial comments on the unprofessionalism of the present industrial disruption by teachers. It can achieve nothing except the alienation of public sympathy, which ought to be the teachers' most effective weapon.

Zionism and the facts

From Mr Lenni Brenner

Sir, Daniel Gruenberg (May 12) challenges my utilization in my book, *Zionism in the Age of the Dictators*, of a quote from a March, 1912, speech by Chaim Weizmann: "Germany already has too many Jews."

My source was Benjamin Matveev, writing in the winter, 1966-67, *Issues magazine of the American Council for Judaism*. But we can go straight to Weizmann's *Letters for Confirmation of his Views on German Jewry*. In a February 27, 1913, letter he dealt with German academic antisemitism:

"It is perfectly natural, the British students would do exactly the same thing... what would happen if 200 poor Russian-Jewish students would come up to Cambridge...? Neither the students, nor the authorities, would ever allow such a thing... the arguments which the German students use — some of them at any rate — are very strong."

In a December 14, 1914, letter he wrote that "We too are in agreement with the cultural antisemitism, in so far as we believe that

Polish shortage of medical aids

From Lady Cox

Sir, As a nurse who has recently returned from taking medical supplies to Poland on behalf of the Medical Aid for Poland Fund (MAPF), I wish to underline the seriousness of the situation, as indicated by Roger Boyes ("Circuses in plenty, but little bread", May 19).

Acute shortages, not only of food but also of basic medical supplies, are resulting in rising morbidity and mortality rates in Poland. The infant mortality rate has risen by one third in recent years and illnesses such as pneumonia, bronchitis and tuberculosis are all increasing.

A Warsaw newspaper recently cited research showing "a significant deficiency of protein, calcium, iron and vitamins A, C and D" in many of Warsaw's children. In one part of the city 50 per cent of the children suffer from dietary insufficiency and "it is estimated that about 200,000 children require supplements to their diet."

Dangers to health from desperate shortages of medical supplies are quoted in this extract from *Zycie Warszawy* (March 31, 1984): "Doctors and patients suffer greatly from the lack of equipment such as disposable needles, syringes and transfusion apparatus. The shortage of this essential equipment is the main cause of a viral infection of the liver known as infectious hepatitis. The continuous use of the same, albeit sterilised, needle for injections was responsible for the 18 per cent rise in incidence of this serious disease last year."

Despite such problems, the standards of nursing and medical care remain remarkably high. As the director of a children's hospital said: "The medical statistics are not as bad as they might be, because the staff give of themselves, in place of what they have not got."

In such circumstances the work of organisations like MAPF has a value even beyond saving lives: it is a symbol that we in the West do not forget the Polish people in their sad predicament.

Yours faithfully,

LADY COX,

House of Lords,

May 21.

Air on Everest

From Mr Nicholas Holdsworth

Sir, I fear that Dr Warren (May 19) is on a hiding to nothing but continues a strong tradition and is in good company: among others, Queen Victoria and her futile efforts to dissuade the flower of the English nobility from losing themselves to the game of Alpinism; and the Swiss Government's ineffectual illegalization, between the wars, of attempts to climb the avalanche-prone North Face of the Eiger.

"To the only too obvious fact that the feat of climbing Mount Everest without oxygen, and at great risk, has now been accomplished several times," most high-altitude mountaineers would doubtless add, "of that and other 8,000-metre peaks: but not by me!"

For the crux is this: that at all levels, overcoming the challenge of mountaineering problems is primarily an individual accomplishment which implicates a mastery of the self and only secondarily is it a success for the climbing community, a nation, or the species.

When possibilities have been realized and fresh standards set, can one really expect a retreat by the successors of those who set the standards?

When Joe Tasker and Peter Boardman disappeared on Everest two years ago they bequeathed a legacy of personal achievement and a record of motivation achieved in freedom which is not only a challenge merely to other climbers but also an inspiration to a wider world which lolls bereft of spirit and burdened by a grubby utilitarian ethic.

Sincerely,

NICK HOLDSWORTH,

15 The Grove,

Bradford,

West Yorkshire,

May 19.

Sixth-form studies

From Sir Reginald Murley

Sir, Many must share Professor Oliver's view (May 23) that a short specialised pre-university course could facilitate entry into medicine for many excellent candidates from a broad educational background. But why await the action or, more likely, the continued inaction by existing authorities? Is it not high time that at least one independent medical school was established to break the monolithic mould?

Yours faithfully,

REGINALD MURLEY,

Cobden Hill House,

Radlett,

Hertfordshire,

May 24.

Watering with care

From Ms D. Hewitt

Sir, Re Mr Semple's letter (May 16): what service charges for a facility and, having obtained the money, ask you to use the facility or, in extreme circumstances, forbids you to use it at all?

Yours faithfully,

D. HEWITT,

Northside,

Godalming,

Surrey,

May 20.

Golden handshakes

From Mr Edward F. Northcote

Sir, Mr J. T. Hall (May 24) thinks the prospect of our captains of industry reaching for their copies of Plato appalling.

I find it appalling.

Yours faithfully,

EDWARD F. NORTHCOTE,

Flat 22,

12a Cambal Road SW15,

May 24.

Racing: French suspension forces Mercer to miss ride on Time Charter at Epsom

Superlative to relish softer going Sadler's Wells in reserve Piggett picks Dahar for tenth Epsom Derby winner

A good draw and soft ground can enable Superlative to retain the winning title in the Temple Stakes at Sandown Park today. Bill O'Grady's horse, who has won only two bad races in his life. The first was at Ascot last June and the second at York 11 days ago. Each time the ground was firm.

Now, after two days of rain, the conditions underfoot should be much more to the liking of Superlative, who ran so well in the Free Handicap. I expect to see him revel in them and beat Reesh, his stable companion, Petorius and Vorvodis, who will also relish the softer ground.

Petorius will be meeting Reesh on 4th better terms than in the Palace House Stakes in which his own chance was ruined when he lost a shoe at the start. However, Reesh finished nearly four lengths behind Superlative in the Flying Children Stakes over five furlongs at Doncaster last September and the ground that day was soft.

The much softer going will also suit Erin's Hope, my selection for the Brigadier Gerard Stakes. Erin's Hope ran in the race 12 months ago and finished third, less than two lengths behind that extremely talented mare, Stannora. On past form Adonijah should beat

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips) Muscatic but in the prevailing conditions he could easily be outstayed over ten furlongs by Erin's Hope, just as he was by Morcor at Goodwood over the same distance last Tuesday. George Robinson, our Newmarket Correspondent, warns that we should expect a good run from Acclimatised, who won the Nassau Stakes at Goodwood last summer.

Twelve months ago Steve Causton teamed up with David Elsworth, the Whitby trainer, to win the Ultramar Whitsun Cup with Mighty Fly. Now the same partnership rely upon County Broker, who, following that good run against Teleprompter at York, will be meeting his opponents on 6th better terms today than in future handicaps.

Fresh from landing his biggest catch to date as a trainer with Katies in the Irish 1,000 Guineas, Mick Ryan is hot on the scent of more good prize money at both Redcar and Leicester today with Video Man and Riddle. Video Man should run well in the Zeland Gold Cup following that encouraging third place at Doncaster earlier this month but I doubt his ability to beat Folly Hill on this occasion.

Considering that he had anything but a clear run at Lingfield, there was much to

like about the way that Folly Hill eventually knuckled down to his task and finished third behind Caballo and My Tony. In the meantime, the fourth horse, Soldier Ant, has given the form a boost by winning at Newbury.

Rixie should do Ryan proud at Leicester by winning the Foxton Handicap Stakes. In his last race, Rixie divided Barry Sheene and Incisive at York and at Haydock on Saturday. Incisive, underlining the value of that form by winning the Cecil Frail Stakes.

That result also points to the outstanding chance of Tapping Wood (map) in the Arksey Handicap at Doncaster, especially as my selection appears to have the pounds in hand of Captain Vigilante, a line through Barry Sheene. There was plenty of give in the ground at Beverley in April when Tapping Wood beat Incisive in a photo finish.

Sherazzar, a stable companion of Tapping Wood, also runs at Doncaster in the Stand Maids Stakes. However, the training of this promising half-brother to Sheragar was interrupted earlier this spring when he bruised a foot. In the circumstances it will be surprising if Sherazzar is able to cope with Commanche Run on this occasion.



Jim Bolger: saddles Erin's Hope at Sandown (2.30)

Comanche Run was out of his depth in the Dante Stakes. Finally, Really Honest, a clever winner at Goodwood last Tuesday, can defy his penalty in the Impel Handicap.

On the subject of the fifties' classic, Clive Brittain said yesterday that as far as he was aware Pebbles, who won the 1,000 Guineas in 1955, has been bought from Sheikh Mohammed, was still on target for the Oaks. A final decision will be made after Brittain has talked to the owner in the middle of the week.

Sadler's Wells in reserve

By John Karter

Vincent O'Brien confirmed yesterday that he will run Sadler's Wells, the winner of the Irish 2,000 Guineas, in the Prix du Jockey Club (French Derby) next Sunday. However, in the event of the going at Epsom becoming very testing there is a 20 per cent possibility that he will withdraw. At the Grand Stand, the odds on ante-post favourite, from the Derby and run Sadler's Wells, who likes plenty of give underfoot, there is a 20 per cent possibility.

With torrential rain falling in the Epsom area for the past few days, and more forecast, it is not impossible that we could have a repeat of last year when the going was heavy. This would obviously put even more emphasis on El Grac's superior stamina.

Ian Balding has engaged Brocc Raymond to ride the fabled Derby horse, El Grac, and the trainer also says that Troyana is a definite runner to the Oaks with Pat Eddery her probable rider.

On the subject of the fifties' classic, Clive Brittain said yesterday that as far as he was aware Pebbles, who won the 1,000 Guineas in 1955, has been bought from Sheikh Mohammed, was still on target for the Oaks. A final decision will be made after Brittain has talked to the owner in the middle of the week.

Piggett picks Dahar for tenth Epsom Derby winner

From Desmond Stotham, French Correspondent, Paris

Leinster Piggett will ride Dahar, who won the Epsom Derby on Wednesday week, provided the colt either wins or is placed in the Prix du Jockey Club (French Derby), which will be run just three days before England's premier classic. At Longchamp yesterday afternoon, Piggett said: "I will ride Dahar at Chantilly and if Epsom provided the horse does not disappoint in the French Derby, I know it is a risk as I could be left without an Epsom ride, but I think Dahar could be a great horse."

His trainer Maurice Zilber, who won the Derby with Piggett and Empery in 1976, said: "Provided Dahar wins his investment, he will be only placed in the Jockey Club then I will run the colt three

Katie's gives Ramsden a quick return

From Our Irish Correspondent, Dublin

There was another remarkable aspect of this win in that she was ridden by Philip Robinson, who had carried this season won the English 1,000 Guineas on Pebbles, the first time that this classic double has been completed by a jockey.

Katie's stuck to her task well after springing clear below the distance and never really looked like being headed by the late challenger, Alanna and So Fine. Katie's will now be aimed at the Coronation Stakes at Royal Ascot.

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

The Prix Dollar went to the peacemaker, Moutazam, who would have returned odds of 50-1 if he had not been coupled with three more fancied subalterns. He took up the running just before the final furlong and ran on well to defeat Moutazam by three-quarters of a length with Pat Eddery and Hoi Touch a further length and a half away, third.

Harlow, and George Duffield, won the seven furlong Prix du Palais Royal by a length and a half from Moutazam, with a further length away. Harlow made his challenge at the farlong marker and ran on to be a comfortable winner. Mark Prescott, will bring the fine length and a half away, third.

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30

At the other end of the race, however, his stable companion, Monomachus, quickened with authority to beat Executive Pride very easily. Vincent O'Brien named him as his likely runner in the Joe McGrath Irish Derby on June 30



Three engines that will run again. From left: DB Class 01, a 2-6-2; DB Class 23, a 2-6-2, one of the last series, built in 1959; and a DB Class 50, a 2-10-0 from 1940. Photographs: Brian Stephenson.

Scargill blames police for picket line scuffle

By Our Labour Reporter

For the first time since the pit strike began Mr Arthur Scargill was involved in a picket line skirmish yesterday, at a British Steel Corporation coke plant. Mr Scargill was pushed to the ground as demonstrators and police clashed outside his works at Orgreave, South Yorkshire. The picket leader, who was not hurt, blamed the police for the incident. About 100 demonstrators had gathered outside the plant to try to stop a convoy of lorries carrying coke to the steelworks at Scunthorpe. The skirmishes began when police herded the pickets away from the entrance to allow 27 lorries through. A further 50 lorries left later. Miners are angry because they are allowing 16,000 tonnes of coke into the Scunthorpe works by rail, but the corpor-

ation says it needs an extra 5,000 tonnes of low sulphur coke from Orgreave to ensure the stability of furnaces. Mr Scargill said afterwards that there had been a near disaster on the picket line. "There were men on the floor, there were police on top of them and more pickets on top of them," he said. He said the men at the coke plant would consider whether to stop the plant completely until the "scab" drivers were banned. Mr Scargill will meet Mr James Cowan, deputy chairman of the National Coal Board, this week to try to settle the dispute, now entering its twelfth week. The National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education, which has 74,000 members, has given £10,000 to the striking miners.

Germany revives the age of steam

From Michael Blayon Bonn

For the first time since 1977 steam trains will once again run on West Germany's railway network. To commemorate the 150th anniversary of the first railway in Germany, three engines now preserved by German Federal Railways are to be brought out of storage and set to work next year on two lines running out of Nuremberg. West Germany was one of the last Western industrial nations to get rid of steam traction, but unlike Britain does not allow any private preservation societies to run their steam trains on the state network. The reintroduction of steam engines is expected to tap a large reservoir of steam nostalgia here, and may lead to plans for permanent steam-hauled trains on scenic lines. The trains, with historic

coaches, will run at weekends from May until September next year on the 45-mile line from Nuremberg to Bayreuth and on another branch line off to Amberg. Nuremberg is the birthplace of German railways, as the first train ran from this ancient Bavarian city to Fürth four miles away on December 7, 1835, thus laying the track for Germany's industrial development. German railways have their main steam museum near Bayreuth at Neuenmarkt-Wirsberg, where 20 standard-gauge locomotives from every epoch of rail history are housed. In Nuremberg, a transport museum contains among its engines a Reichsbahn "05" which could reach 125 miles an hour and a 1933 express locomotive which once provided a regular service between Berlin and Hamburg at a speed of 100 mph. The locomotives to be used

on the lines from Nuremberg - chosen because there are no overhead power lines to spoil photographs - will be a series "01" 4-6-2 locomotive, built in 1940, a series "50" 3-10-0 goods locomotive, also built in 1940, and a "23", one of the last series built in Germany which is a 2-6-2, from 1959. German railways are hoping the steam tours and other special events for the anniversary will boost passenger traffic. The celebrations come at a difficult time for the railways, which now account for only 6.5 per cent of all traffic and lose more money than any other European system. Last year's deficit amounted to DM4,990m (£1,313m) and the new government is resolved to cut the losses. It has drawn up plans for the closure of over 4,300 miles of track, the scrapping of

75,000 goods trucks and a cut of 80,000 in the workforce. German railways, though providing an enviable efficient and comprehensive inter-city service, have never had a Dr Beeching to prune the many single-track lines that still criss-cross the countryside, meandering through the Black Forest of the Bavarian Alps and serving small towns all over the Federal Republic. But strong objections to any closures have been voiced in all regions, especially in Bavaria. Ironically the government is also committed to spending nearly £4,000m building new railway lines, one running for 205 miles parallel to the East German border to link Hamburg with Munich. Before the war the rail network was oriented east-west, and the division of Germany caused bottlenecks on the north-south lines and imposed severe strains on the system.

US airlines jittery over Air Florida

From Our Correspondent, Miami

One of the top US airlines has ended its reciprocal ticket agreement with financially troubled Air Florida. It gives as its reason the need to limit its own credit exposure. "That means we will no longer accept Air Florida tickets for flights on Delta," Mr Bill Berry, Delta's manager for public relations, said shortly before the agreement finished. Delta, Eastern Airlines, North West Orient Airlines and several other carriers, have terminated all or part of their reciprocal arrangements with Air Florida. The Delta termination began a few hours after Air Florida announced that it had not been able to reach a final agreement in its attempt to obtain a \$5m loan from General Electric

Credit Corporation of Stamford, Connecticut. Under the interlining arrangements, most airlines honour another's tickets on a virtually unrestricted basis. This amounts to the extension by one airline of credit to another airline until the accounts and balances are settled by the clearing house each month. This balance would be upset when, for example, one airline failed to settle its account on time. Air Florida's is a month behind on its settlement already. The airline, which has flights to Britain, is also having problems with travel agencies based in the Miami area, which are beginning, in their attempts to protect customers, to have serious doubts about issuing Air Florida tickets.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

Princess Anne, patron of the Surrey County Agricultural Society, attends Surrey County Show, Guildford, 10.45.

Music

St David's Bach Festival: concert by Cathedral Choir, St David's Cathedral, Dyfed, 8. Organ recital by Kenneth Beard, Southwell, Nottinghamshire, 3.30. Organ recital by Mark Buxton, Paris, 1.03; concert by University of

Missouri Singers, 2.30; both at Coventry Cathedral. Concert by Stockholm Cathedral Choir, Canterbury Cathedral, 12. Organ recital by Michael Nicholas, Norwich Cathedral, 11.

General

Model Craft and Country Show, Royal Showground, Stoneleigh, Kenilworth, Warwickshire, 9 to 6. West Country Boat Show, The Harbour, Torquay, Devon, 10.30 to 7.

The week's walks

Today: Inns of Court, meet Holborn Underground, 11. Alleys and Courtyards of the City, meet Mansion House Underground, 11. Hampstead, meet Hampstead Underground, 12. London's Palaces, meet Embankment Underground, 2. Mayfair pub walk, meet Great Park Underground, 7.30.

Tomorrow: In the Footsteps of Sherlock Holmes, meet Embankment Underground, 11. Great Plague and Great Fire, meet Monument Underground (Fish Street Hill exit), 2. Westminster, meet Westminster Underground, 7.30.

Wednesday: Inns of Court, meet Holborn Underground, 11. Belgrave, meet St Anne's Square Underground, 11. Riverside Pubs, Prisons and Hidden Paths, meet St Paul's Underground, 7.30.

Thursday: Dickens' London, meet Tower Hill Underground, 11. Georgian London, meet Holborn Underground, 2. Saxon, Viking and Norman London, meet Museum of London, 2.30. Ghosts of the City, meet St Paul's Underground, 7.30.

Friday: Historic and Macabre Fleet Street, meet St Paul's Underground, 11. Mayfair, meet Green Park Underground, 2. Smithfield and Fleet Street in the Middle Ages, meet outside Museum of London, 2.30. Clerkenwell walk, meet Chancery Lane Underground, 7.30.

Saturday: Roman London, meet outside the Museum of London, 2.30. Chelsea, meet Sloane Square Underground, 2.30.

Sunday: Cockney London - Lambeth, meet Westminster Underground, 11. Hampstead Village and Heath, meet Hampstead Underground, 11. Along Regent's Canal to Islington, meet Camden Town Underground, 2.30. Clerkenwell, meet Clerkenwell Heritage Centre, 33 St John's Square, EC1, 2.30.

Anniversaries

Births: William Pitt the Younger, prime minister 1783-1801, 1804-06. Hayek, Kent, 1759; Thomas Moore, poet and musician, Dublin, 1779. Deaths: Luigi Boccherini, Madrid, 1805.

Bond winners

Winning numbers in the weekly draw for Premium Bond prizes are: £100,000: 24RL 682555 (winner lives in Salfordshire); £50,000: 11SF 376759 (East); £25,000: 15XT 385226 (London, Borough of Harrow).

Nature notes

In the Outer Hebrides, corncrakes are back until the grass and corn grow taller, they stay in the beds of yellow-iris leaves, climbing up on stones to make their loud, grating call resound over the islands. Great northern divers are still making their way up western coasts at high tide they come in closer to the shore, where their massive bills and brilliant spangled backs can be clearly seen. Oystercatchers are displaying excitedly on the rocks they point their long and bill downwards and pipe loudly to drive an intruder away. A few are already nesting in shallow scoops to the meadow-grass.

The leaves on the ash-trees have come out late this year: some are only just opening now. In the north of England and the Scottish lowlands, in equal measure, Forests of long spikes of white blossom are quite unlike other cherries. In the same parts of the country, sweet cicely is common on the roadsides: it is the cow parsley, but more so, and has a more delicate and lacy, more of a bright green-and-white bush. The four-petalled yellow tormentil is in bloom, and kidney vetch and bird's-foot trefoil are coming out everywhere.

DJM

The papers

The Americans are blamed for much of Britain's - and the world's - financial woes in the Sunday papers. The Mail on Sunday blames Britain's "trade union militants" and America's "short-sighted politicians" in equal measure. For the Sunday Times, President Reagan's own political fortunes depend on cutting the federal government's deficit at once. "That is the best hope of averting a full-scale international banking crisis," the paper says. The Sunday Telegraph, however, expects him to "sit on his hands" to see the election only six months away.

A sour mood tinged with anxiety about the nation's economic prospects characterizes the other papers. The Sunday People notes that Britain is in the doldrums but is still about to produce "the finest Upper Class Twits on earth" - citing the sitcoms of three famous families. The Sunday Express suggests that "there is a great deal of shouting that still needs to be done in Europe" to secure financial justice for Britain in the European Community. Mrs Thatcher is the one to shout, it says, in preference to Mr David Steel, who has been urging a softly, softly approach.

Commenting on reports suggesting that Mrs Thatcher will make a special case of the nurses and give them the full rise recommended by their pay review body, the Daily Express says: "The Government is perfectly within its rights to have the last word when it comes to public sector pay, even when this means setting aside recommended increase limits. ... Few people will begrudge the nurses the full amount."

Roads

London and South-east: A6: Northbound width restrictions on South Mimms by-pass. A105: Roadworks on Green Lane, Manor House, between Seven Sisters Road and Gloucester Drive. A4: Experimental traffic scheme on Great West Road at junction with Windmill Road (B432): approach with caution.

Midlands and East Anglia: A34: Roadworks on Winchester to Epsom road with diversion at Tidmington, Warwickshire. A34: Lane closures on Stone to Newcastle road at Strongford. A38: Lane closures at Alfreton, between Watchorn Island (A61 junction) and roundabout at junction 28, near Mallock, Derbyshire.

North: A628: Delays at junction of Dodworth road with M1, junction 37, W of Barnsley, S Yorks. A562: Single lane traffic at Sankley Brook, Warrington, Cheshire, severe delays. A695: Roadworks at Stanley Burn Bridge, Gateshead, Tyne and Wear.

Wales and West: M5: South-bound entry slip-road closed at junction 13: diversions via junction 14; and lane closures on both carriageways between junctions 12 and 13. Also between junctions 8 and 9 (M50). A38: Lane closures on Plymouth to Exeter road.

South-east: A905: Bridge works at M9 (junction 5), Stirling, A54: Roadworks between Colander and Strathgry, Perthshire. A907: Single lane traffic W of Kirkcaldy, Fife.

Ferry dispute

The continuing strike by the National Union of Seamen means there will be no Townsend Thoresen ferry services on the Felixstowe-Zebrugge, Felixstowe-Europe (Rotterdam) and Cairnryan-Larne routes.

The pound

	Bank	Buy	Sell
Australia \$	1.60	1.52	
Austria Sch	27.70	26.10	
Belgium Fr	80.25	76.25	
Canada \$	1.83	1.76	
Denmark Kr	14.24	13.64	
Finland Mk	8.35	7.50	
France Fr	12.04	11.44	
Germany DM	3.50	3.72	
Greece Dr	112.00	145.00	
Hong Kong \$	1.28	1.22	
Ireland £	2495.00	2305.00	
Italy Lira	334.00	318.00	
Netherlands Gld	4.41	4.19	
Norway Kr	11.15	10.60	
Portugal Esc	197.00	187.00	
South Africa Rd	2.16	2.02	
Spain Ptas	214.75	203.75	
Sweden Kr	11.63	11.03	
Switzerland Fr	3.23	3.06	
USA \$	1.42	1.37	
Yugoslavia Dnr	194.00	182.00	

Retail Price Index: 345.1. London: The FT Index closed up 1.5 on Friday at 827.9.

New York: The Dow Jones industrial average closed up 1.67 on Friday at 1107.1.

Weather

An area of low pressure over the Low Countries will move E only slowly.

London, SE: E England, East Anglia, E Midlands: Cloudy, rain at times, wind N moderate; max temp 10 to 12C (50 to 54F).

Central S, central N England, W Midlands, Channal Islands: Mostly cloudy, outbreaks of rain; wind N, light or moderate; max temp 12 to 14C (54 to 57F).

SW, NW England, Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow: Sunny intervals, showers; wind N, light; max temp 12 to 14C (54 to 57F).

NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen: Central Highlands: Mostly cloudy, rain or drizzle at times; wind N, moderate; max temp 10 to 12C (50 to 54F).

Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Cloudy, outbreaks of rain or showers; wind N, moderate; max temp 10 to 12C (50 to 54F).

Argyll, NW Scotland: Sunny periods, mostly dry; wind variable, mainly N, light; max temp 10 to 12C (50 to 54F).

Northern Ireland: Sunny intervals, showers, heavy at times; wind variable, light; max temp 13C (55F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Wednesday: Showers dying out in W; cloudy with rain in E, but bright or sunny intervals developing.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Strait of Dover: Wind N or NW, fresh or strong; sea moderate or rough. English Channel, Irish Sea: Wind NW, fresh; sea moderate. St Georges Channel, Irish Sea: Wind N or NW, moderate, occasionally fresh; sea moderate, decreasing slight.

Sun rises: 4.53 am Sun sets: 9.04 pm
Moon rises: 4.01 am Moon sets: 6.58 pm
New Moon: May 30.

Lighting-up time

London 8.38 pm to 4.22 am
Bristol 8.43 pm to 4.22 am
Cardiff 8.48 pm to 4.22 am
Manchester 8.53 pm to 4.19 am
Preston 9.08 pm to 4.19 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: June 1, 1st.
C F C F
Belfast 12.54 54.57 Glasgow 9.48 49.08
Birmingham 11.54 52.77 Liverpool 10.54 51.57
Cardiff 11.54 52.77 Manchester 11.54 52.77
Edinburgh 11.54 52.77 London 11.54 52.77
Newcastle 11.54 52.77 Nottingham 11.54 52.77
Preston 11.54 52.77 Reading 11.54 52.77
Sheffield 11.54 52.77 Southampton 11.54 52.77
Tottenham 11.54 52.77 Wakefield 11.54 52.77
Wolverhampton 11.54 52.77 York 11.54 52.77

Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Glasgow, Long Kesh, 15C (59F); lowest day temp: Lymington, 8C (46F); highest night temp: Bournemouth, 10.5C (51.5F); lowest night temp: Bournemouth, 4.5C (40.1F).

Saturday: Highest day temp: Manchester, 15C (59F); lowest day temp: Lymington, 8C (46F); highest night temp: Bournemouth, 10.5C (51.5F); lowest night temp: Bournemouth, 4.5C (40.1F).

Sunday: Highest day temp: Manchester, 15C (59F); lowest day temp: Lymington, 8C (46F); highest night temp: Bournemouth, 10.5C (51.5F); lowest night temp: Bournemouth, 4.5C (40.1F).



High tides

Location	AM	PM	HT
London Bridge	12.28	6.2	1.28
Aberdeen	12.40	5.5	1.24
Aberystwyth	12.45	5.5	1.24
Belfast	12.50	5.5	1.24
Cardiff	12.55	5.5	1.24
Dundee	1.00	5.5	1.24
Glasgow	1.05	5.5	1.24
Harwich	1.10	5.5	1.24
Liverpool	1.15	5.5	1.24
London	1.20	5.5	1.24
Manchester	1.25	5.5	1.24
Newcastle	1.30	5.5	1.24
Nottingham	1.35	5.5	1.24
Reading	1.40	5.5	1.24
Sheffield	1.45	5.5	1.24
Southampton	1.50	5.5	1.24
Tottenham	1.55	5.5	1.24
Wolverhampton	2.00	5.5	1.24
York	2.05	5.5	1.24

Abroad

Location	C F	C F	C F
Algeria	24.76	76.57	76.57
Australia	24.76	76.57	76.57
Belgium	24.76	76.57	76.57
Canada	24.76	76.57	76.57
Denmark	24.76	76.57	76.57
France	24.76	76.57	76.57
Germany	24.76	76.57	76.57
Greece	24.76	76.57	76.57
India	24.76	76.57	76.57
Italy	24.76	76.57	76.57
Japan	24.76	76.57	76.57
Kenya	24.76	76.57	76.57
Malaysia	24.76	76.57	76.57
Norway	24.76	76.57	76.57
Poland	24.76	76.57	76.57
Portugal	24.76	76.57	76.57
Romania	24.76	76.57	76.57
Spain	24.76	76.57	76.57
Sweden	24.76	76.57	76.57
Switzerland	24.76	76.57	76.57
Taiwan	24.76	76.57	76.57
Thailand	24.76	76.57	76.57
USA	24.76	76.57	76.57
Yugoslavia	24.76	76.57	76.57

Around Britain

Location	Run	Time	Time
London	1.2	1.2	1.2
Birmingham	1.2	1.2	1.2
Cardiff	1.2	1.2	1.2
Dundee	1.2	1.2	1.2
Glasgow	1.2	1.2	1.2
Harwich	1.2	1.2	1.2
Liverpool	1.2	1.2	1.2
London	1.2	1.2	1.2
Manchester	1.2	1.2	1.2
Newcastle	1.2	1.2	1.2
Nottingham	1.2	1.2	1.2
Reading	1.2	1.2	1.2
Sheffield	1.2	1.2	1.2
Southampton	1.2	1.2	1.2
Tottenham	1.2	1.2	1.2
Wolverhampton	1.2	1.2	1.2
York	1.2	1.2	1.2

Concise crossword and solution to Saturday's jumble, page 8.

TEACHER'S. A WELCOME AWAITING.